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Japan

Miyazawa Rejects Call for Earlier G-7 Summit

OW1802093993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0925 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa has informed European Community (EC) President Jacques Delors he cannot move up the planned July 7-9 Group of Seven (G-7) summit to April as requested due to a lack of preparation time. Miyazawa told Delors, however, that he shares the EC president's view that the G-7 nations must not delay taking measures to restore the vitality of the world economy, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Thursday. Miyazawa made the response in a letter dated Wednesday, Kono said.

Earlier this month, Delors in a letter to Miyazawa sought an early summit to help revitalize the international economy.

According to a Japanese Foreign Ministry source, France supported the EC proposal for an April summit, while Britain and the United States did not favor the idea. The G-7 also includes Germany, Italy, and Canada. The EC president also attends the annual economic meetings.

Kono Denies Promise of 3 Percent Growth

OW1502044593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Monday that Japan has not promised the United States it will achieve 3 percent economic growth this year. Kono said the government will do its utmost to meet a growth target of 3.3 percent for fiscal 1993, which begins April 1, but that Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe did not make a specific pledge to the U.S. Government on this during his visit to Washington last week.

Watanabe, speaking to reporters in Washington after meeting U.S. President Bill Clinton last Thursday [11 February], said he told the president Japan will do its utmost to stimulate the economy if it falls short of the growth target.

Kono told a news conference that Watanabe's visit has paved the way for a "frank and equal" relationship with the Clinton administration. He said both sides agreed that Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa should pay an early visit to Washington, possibly in late March.

Hayashi Urges Trimming Mounting Trade Surplus

OW1502043993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0341 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi indicated Monday that Japan must seek ways to trim its mounting trade surplus with the United States and that the government should work harder to stimulate domestic demand.

Hayashi, in remarks addressed to the House of Representatives Budget Committee after his return from a three-day trip to Washington, said, "the U.S. is concerned about Japan's surplus." He also said he agreed with U.S. Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen in the Washington meeting that currency exchange rates should reflect the economic fundamentals of each country.

Hayashi told the press Sunday [14 February] upon arrival home that he and Bentsen agreed that exchange rates should not be artificially controlled.

Reaction to Clinton's Economic Policy Reported

Hayashi Supports Package

OW1802121093 Tokyo KYODO in English 1144 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japanese Finance Minister Yoshiro Hayashi on Thursday hailed the economic package announced overnight by U.S. President Bill Clinton, saying it shows his willingness to revive America.

Hayashi said he supported the tax hike scheme in that it would eventually contribute to stimulating the economy as well as encouraging the competitiveness of U.S. industry. Hayashi said he hopes that under the Clinton administration, "the U.S. economy will achieve growth free of inflationary pressures."

Cutting the U.S. deficit has been one of the major issues since the bilateral structural impediments initiative (SII) talks, Hayashi said, but "it's good that Clinton came up with plans (to cut the deficit) to accomplish the target that was not achieved" under the administration of former President George Bush. The package includes a plan to cut the expected federal deficit by 500 billion dollars in four years.

A top Finance Ministry official said the same day that Clinton's scheme "sounds far more like economics" than U.S. economic policy under preceding Republican administrations.

Hayashi said the package is also in line with Clinton's stance when the two met in Washington last weekend, where Clinton told Hayashi he hopes to beef up business.

Meanwhile, the finance minister brushed aside the possibility that there will be increasing pressure from Washington for Japan to open its markets further, since "the administration should be too busy with internal affairs for the time being," and will not have the energy to spare for pursuing "responsibilities of other nations." "That (possible increase of pressure) was not the kind of tone when I saw him" [as received] in Washington, Hayashi said.

He said Japan is doing its best to stimulate its own economy and measures taken so far, on the premise that the fiscal 1993 budget will soon pass the Diet, will be sufficient for the time being. Nevertheless, he expressed some concern over future reaction of the U.S. Congress against Japan under the new economic policy.

Finance Ministry Officials Comment

OW1802041093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0400 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Finance Ministry officials said Thursday that the economic policy package announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton could ease the U.S. fiscal deficit and thus have a favorable impact on the global economy. Ministry officials said that although trimming the fiscal deficit may trigger deflationary pressures in the initial stage, Clinton's plan seems to be well-balanced in that it includes short-term pump-priming measures such as promotion of investment.

With respect to possible requests from Washington for Japan to further open its markets and trim the mounting trade surplus, the officials said they will try to explain that Japan is doing its best to stimulate the economy through its own pump-priming schemes.

Kono Praises 'Belt-Tightening'

OW1802085193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0842 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japan hopes the belt-tightening economic package announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton will help revitalize the U.S. economy, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Thursday.

Kono praised Clinton's plan to raise taxes and cut government spending in order to reduce the federal deficit, calling it the result of a difficult political decision. "I sincerely hope that the United States will renew itself," Kono told a news conference. Hinting that Clinton may eventually seek economic sacrifices from Japan, Kono said, "first the President is asking the American people to share the pain. At some point it is anticipated that he will seek policy decisions elsewhere."

Clinton, in his first presidential address to Congress on Wednesday, unveiled a plan that includes a tax hike aimed at generating an extra 242 billion dollars and a cut in government spending by 253 billion dollars. Clinton also pledged to open up new markets overseas.

Miyazawa Concerned Over Pressure

OW1802124393 Tokyo KYODO in English 1233 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Thursday expressed concern over possible further U.S. pressure on Japan to open its markets and reduce its whopping trade surplus. Commenting on the economic package announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton, Miyazawa told a group of Japanese reporters that the Americans, who are talking about tax hikes and cutting the deficit, "might beef up their demands for Japan to do something."

Clinton's economic policy package, including cutting the federal deficit by nearly 500 billion dollars in four years through tax hikes, increases in revenues and cuts in expenditure, is aimed at stimulating the economy. Miyazawa said Clinton's decision to hike taxes shows his economic package "is a truly and seriously determined one."

Tanahashi: Free Trade Upheld

OW1802092693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0909 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japanese Finance Ministry officials Thursday welcomed the economic policy package announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton, noting it called for medium- and long-term efforts to reduce the U.S. federal budget deficit. Clinton's calls for tax increases and defense spending cuts are among the specific measures for balancing the budget, the officials said.

Japan has repeatedly urged the United States to reduce its budget deficit in order to strengthen its economy and help stabilize the global economy. At the same time, the Japanese officials expressed concern that the U.S. may pressure Japan to work harder to stimulate its own economy in return for U.S. efforts to balance the budget.

Some officials said the proposed fiscal belt-tightening measures could delay U.S. economic recovery through its short-term deflationary effects. Other officials, however, praised Clinton's package as well-balanced, noting it included additional investment and other economic stimulation measures.

Yuji Tanahashi, vice minister of international trade and industry, meanwhile, said Clinton's message indicates his administration will keep the principle of upholding the free trade system. It also made clear Washington's intentions to bring the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks to a successful conclusion and expand global trade, Tanahashi noted.

Business Leaders Welcome Package

OW1802095593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0927 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japanese business leaders on Thursday praised the economic policy package announced by U.S. President Bill Clinton, expressing their hope it will lead to a restoration of U.S. economic health.

Gaishi Hiraiwa, chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said the package will benefit the entire world if it leads to stable U.S. economic growth.

Masaru Hayami, chairman of the Japan Association of Corporate Executives (Keizai Doyukai), praised Clinton for expressing a strong determination to achieve U.S. financial reconstruction.

Rokuro Ishikawa, chairman of the Japan Chamber of Commerce and Industry, said he was impressed with Clinton's proposal for a new energy tax, which he had long supported.

But officials of the Japan Iron and Steel Federation expressed concern the proposed economic package, if implemented, could dampen U.S. sales of automobiles and other durable consumer goods.

Keidanren's Hiraiwa also said the package could lead to stronger U.S. pressure on Japan to cut its huge trade surplus and open its markets.

BOJ 'Source' Comments on U.S. Trade Deficit

OW1802143693 Tokyo KYODO in English 1426 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—A Bank of Japan (BOJ) source said Thursday that December U.S. trade data will have little impact on the yen-dollar rate on the world's foreign exchange markets. The scale of the deficit in December is not unusually large for a single month, the source said.

The U.S. Commerce Department reported that the nation's merchandise trade deficit narrowed to a seasonally adjusted 6.95 billion dollars in December, down 6.4 percent from November. The U.S. trade deficit in 1992 totaled 84.34 billion dollars, up 29 percent from the year before.

Japanese market sources said the overall deficit figure was a little smaller than expected and it can be considered a dollar-buying factor. But the trade deficit with Japan was larger than expected, a factor that would discourage dollar buying, they said.

Tanahashi Denies 'Secret Agreement' With EC

OW1802101993 Tokyo KYODO in English 0955 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japan has never made a "secret agreement" with the European Community (EC) Commission on Japan's automobile exports to the EC, the vice trade minister said Thursday.

Yuji Tanahashi, the vice trade minister, was responding to a report spread in Tokyo lately. The report said some people in the EC automobile industry claim that Japan made a secret agreement in 1990, when it was negotiating with the EC about Japan's automobile export controls. The agreement was that if automobile demand in the EC further declined, Japan would reduce its automobile exports by the number equivalent to three quarters of the declined demand.

Tanahashi told a regular press conference that the EC did not make such a request during negotiations and that the report is totally untrue.

Officials at the Ministry of International Trade and Industry also said such a report may be a strategy move by somebody in the EC automobile industry to jolt Japan, prior to the forthcoming Japan-EC automobile export negotiations. The two sides are scheduled to negotiate about Japan's automobile export quota to the EC for 1993 on March 1 and 2 in Tokyo.

Niigata-Vladivostok Flight Route Approved

OW1502133793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1249 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—The Transport Ministry on Monday approved an application by the Russian airline Aeroflot to start regular flights between Niigata and Vladivostok, ministry officials said. The approval came after Japan and Russia agreed last November to open two air routes between Niigata and Vladivostok in the Russian Far East and between Hakodate in Hokkaido and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in Sakhalin.

Aeroflot plans to start the Niigata-Vladivostok twice-weekly flight on April 1, flying a 156-seat TU154M plane on Thursday and Sunday. Niigata will be the first international destination for flights from Vladivostok. Aeroflot is also planning to start the flight between Hakodate and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk in the spring of next year.

Mail Allowed To Enter Vladivostok, Khabarovsk

OW1602135893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1307 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 16 KYODO—Russia agreed to speed up the delivery of mail from Japan to the country's Far East by handling it at Khabarovsk or Vladivostok instead of Moscow, as at present, Japanese Government officials said Tuesday. The officials of the Posts and Telecommunications Ministry said the agreement came in the first Japan-Russia postal talks held in Tokyo the same day.

Japan had asked for improved delivery because of the increasing number of Japanese companies expanding their business into Russia's Far East. The officials said the two countries did not decide exactly when the new system would be introduced. But once implemented, it will enable mail from Japan to the Russian Far East to arrive in about a week, instead of the current two to three weeks, they said.

Russia also agreed to expand the scope of international express mail services in the country, the officials said.

Labor Minister Not Planning To Visit Taiwan

OW1802125793 Tokyo KYODO in English 1134 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Labor Minister Masakuni Murakami denied press reports Thursday he is planning to visit Taiwan in late March or April to attend an international conference. "I want to visit if possible, but the circumstances are not right. It is difficult to visit in an official capacity," Murakami told reporters.

He said when he visited Taipei in December before becoming minister, Taiwan President Li Teng-hui urged him to come again when he assumed the post, saying Japan is the only industrialized country from which cabinet members have not visited Taiwan.

The CHINA TIME EXPRESS in Taipei reported Wednesday that Murakami plans to visit Taipei in late March or April. No Japanese cabinet minister has visited Taiwan since Japan broke off diplomatic relations in 1972 to normalize ties with China, which considers Taiwan a renegade province.

SDPJ Plans Message for ROK's Kim Yong-sam

OW1802055293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0528 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The Social Democratic Party [of Japan—SDPJ], once a longtime backer of North Korea, will send a high-level mission to South Korea for President-elect Kim Yong-sam's February 25 inauguration, SDP officials said Thursday. The SDP, Japan's No. 1 opposition party, will dispatch Kanju Sato, a vice chairman, from February 24 to 27 to hand over a message from party leader Sadao Yamahana, they said. They quoted Yamahana as saying at Thursday's meeting of the SDP's Central Executive Committee, "I will convey my wish to visit South Korea as early as possible."

Yahamana, who became SDP chairman in January, wants to visit Seoul during a series of Japanese national holidays in early May if South Korea agrees to the visit, they said.

The SDP has long urged the Japanese Government to speedily establish diplomatic ties with Pyongyang. The government in Tokyo has said it wants to see Pyongyang erase international suspicions that it is developing nuclear weapons before establishing diplomatic ties.

Telephone Service To DPRK Partly Suspended

OW1802130193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1145 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Direct dial telephone service to North Korea has been interrupted, Japan's international telephone and telegraph company, KDD, said Thursday. According to KDD, direct dial calls to North Korea can only reach numbers in Pyongyang at two exchanges and about 20 percent of those calls have not been connected, KDD said.

Telephone calls through an international operator, telex messages and telegraphs are still possible, KDD said.

North Korea's Post and Telecommunications Ministry informed KDD last October it would change the way North Korean telephones receive calls from overseas and calls began failing to be connected from about the end of the year.

South Korea's YONHAP NEWS AGENCY reported Monday that North Korea has changed every single telephone number in the country to block all contact overseas. Quoting informed sources in Beijing, YONHAP reported a number of calls to friends in North Korea have not been connected because the telephone numbers have been changed.

Analysts in Seoul speculated Pyongyang wants to prevent any information of its domestic situation from flowing into foreign countries because its economy is getting worse and there have been reports of food and money riots last year.

Kono Doubts Effectiveness of Sanctions on Burma

OW1802053393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0513 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japan's top government spokesman said Thursday he doubts whether stronger sanctions against Myanmar [Burma] would be effective in securing the release of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi. Chief Cabinet Secretary and Acting Foreign Minister Yohei Kono said Japan plans to continue its quiet dialogue with Myanmar to encourage authorities in Yangon [Rangoon] to respect human rights.

Kono, who has acted for the ailing Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe since Tuesday, was commenting on a campaign launched by a group of Nobel Peace Prize laureates seeking freedom for Myanmar's dissident leader. "Most important is that we take into consideration Myanmar's domestic law and domestic judgment," Kono said, adding that strong pressure by Japan is unlikely to win Aung San Suu Kyi's release.

On Wednesday, eight winners of the Nobel Peace Prize gathered in Bangkok and called on the Myanmar junta to unconditionally release Aung San Suu Kyi, the 1991 winner of the peace prize. The Dalai Lama, a Nobel Peace Prize winner and Tibet's spiritual leader, suggested that stiffer international measures such as an arms embargo should be considered.

The military junta put Aung San Suu Kyi under house arrest more than three years ago before her party won the 1990 general election. Japan has continued to supply aid to Yangon that was pledged before the 1988 crackdown on pro-democracy demonstrations, but has not offered new funds.

SDF Assists Ghanaians, French in Cambodia

OW1502125593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1121 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—Japan has accepted requests from the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) to assist peacekeepers from other countries in the transport of containers and construction of living facilities, the government said Monday. Japan's peacekeeping contingency will transport 30 containers from Phnom Penh to the port of Sihanoukville in southwestern Cambodia for Ghanaian peacekeepers who are being replaced, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said.

Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, who heads the office that is coordinating the peacekeeping efforts, also approved a request for Japanese Ground Self-Defense Force [SDF] troops to assist French soldiers in building an embankment near their living quarters, Kono said. The tasks do not require an amendment of the government's peacekeeping cooperation plan, he said.

Tokyo Denies Illegal Import of Cambodian Timber

OW1502095693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0924 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—Top government spokesman Yohei Kono Monday countered a United Nations report alleging that large quantities of timber illegally exported from Cambodia are entering Japan.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Kono said he would ask relevant ministries to investigate the allegations, but that he does not believe the illegal timber is coming to Japan. "Imports are forbidden, and Japan is faithfully observing the law," Kono said at a regularly scheduled news conference.

UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali told the UN Security Council Friday that from January 1 to February 5, about 8,000 cubic meters of illegal logs, or one-fifth of known illegal exports from Cambodia, came to Japan. The information was included in a report on the situation in Cambodia in advance of mid-May national elections. A UN resolution bans Cambodian exports of logs.

Butrus-Ghali arrived in Japan earlier in the day on a five-day visit.

Tadashi Ikeda, director general of the Foreign Ministry's Asian Affairs Bureau, told the day's session of the House of Representatives Budget Committee that Japan banned imports of Cambodian logs on January 8 under the Trade Control Law. He said the ministry is checking with the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) whether the alleged imports refer to timber that was shipped before that day or timber which was on order before then.

Ikeda said, however, that there have not been any log imports this month. He also said that according to some reports, suspect timber is still in storage at a port and that it has not been approved for import. He said the ministry will check whether it is illegal or not.

Mitsui Officials Investigate

OW1702035393 Tokyo KYODO in English 0338 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 17 KYODO—Officials of Japanese trading giant Mitsui and Co. left for Cambodia on Wednesday to check into allegations the company violated a U.N. embargo on timber exports from the war-torn country.

The U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) said Tuesday that two Mitsui shipments were among a total of 46 confirmed cases of illegal timber exports from Cambodia by companies from several nations between January 1 and February 5 this year.

The Mitsui officials will ask UNTAC officials for detailed explanations of the allegations, the company said. Mitsui denied violating the embargo, contending it had obtained advance approval from UNTAC and other authorities for the timber shipments. The U.N. Security Council decided last November to impose a ban on timber exports, a major source of income for Khmer Rouge guerrillas, to force them to abide by a U.N.-mediated peace accord. The embargo came into force on January 1.

UN Requests 20-50 Peacekeepers for Mozambique

OW1602120893 Tokyo KYODO in English 1126 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 16 KYODO—The United Nations has informally asked Japan to send 20 to 50 peacekeepers to join the world body's peacekeeping activities in Mozambique, a Foreign Ministry source said Tuesday. According to the source, Japanese peacekeepers have been asked to take part in cease-fire monitoring, transportation, and communications operations in the war-torn southern African country.

The source said in a sense the situation in Mozambique is much safer than in Cambodia, and Japan's five principles for participating in overseas peacekeeping activities would not be broken. Japan's peacekeeping cooperation law, which was enacted last year, stipulates the five conditions, such as a cease-fire agreement by the warring parties being in place, to be met for Tokyo to join U.N. peacekeeping operations.

Tokyo Considering Mozambique Role

OW1802042693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0358 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japan and the United Nations are informally exchanging views on Japan playing a possible role in peacekeeping operations in

Mozambique, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yohei Kono said Thursday. Kono said that Mozambique meets ceasefire and other conditions stipulated by Japan for dispatching peacekeepers. He said the government is weighing other factors such as public support.

"I believe the majority of people support making international contributions by participating in peacekeeping activities. I believe there is considerable understanding, but we would like to see a greater consciousness," Kono told a daily news conference.

Noting that Japan's overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces personnel is still being debated in the Diet, Kono said full public support is important for Japan's long-term contributions in the peacekeeping field. Japan passed a law last June permitting the overseas dispatch of ground troops for the first time since World War II amid staunch protests from the leading opposition Social Democratic Party.

Kono said the government has not received any specific requests for participation in Mozambique peacekeeping operations, and has set no deadline for arriving at a decision. The United Nations is expected to send requests to member states in March seeking a total of 7,000 to 8,000 peacekeeping personnel.

Butrus-Ghali Gives News Conference 18 Feb

Urges Expanded Peacekeeping Role

OW1802105993 Tokyo KYODO in English 1044 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali reiterated Thursday his call on Japan to boost its international commitment by increasing its peacekeeping activities. In a news conference at the Japan National Press Club in Tokyo, the U.N. chief said Japanese participation in United Nations peacekeeping operations in Africa and Central South American countries would have "a political value and a symbolic value."

Asked about Japan's desire to be a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, Butrus-Ghali said that he thinks there is a high possibility that Japan will get a permanent seat, but added that it is up to U.N. member nations. He also said that further Japanese participation in U.N. peacekeeping activities has nothing to do with its hope to join the five permanent countries of the U.N. Security Council.

Butrus-Ghali will leave Friday for New York after a five-day official visit to Tokyo, which included an 80-minute meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Tuesday.

In response to Butrus-Ghali's call for expanded Japanese contributions to the world body's peacekeeping operations, Miyazawa pointed to constitutional constraints on overseas dispatch of the nation's military. Japan's Constitution prohibits the use of force as a means of settling international conflicts.

Explains UN's 'Neutral' Role

OW1802132593 Tokyo KYODO in English 1304 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali renewed Thursday his call for Japan to shoulder a heavier international responsibility and boost its peacekeeping activities abroad.

The U.N. chief, who is in Japan until Friday on a five-day official visit, said major political, historical, and economic countries have more responsibility than smaller countries, and urged Japan to increase its international commitment by participating in U.N. peacekeeping activities around the world. "We need more participation from the major countries. Japan is a great country," Butrus-Ghali told reporters at a news conference at the Japan National Press Club.

On the United Nations peacekeeping mission in Cambodia, Butrus-Ghali said the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) has already successfully achieved its objectives in the run-up to the U.N.-sponsored general elections set for May 23-25. He also reiterated that the U.N. will call the elections in Cambodia despite the Khmer Rouge rebel group's refusal to participate.

Japan, in its first dispatch of its ground troops abroad since World War II, sent peacekeepers to the war-ravaged country last year.

In a meeting with Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa on Tuesday, which he called "a substantial part" of his trip to Japan, the U.N. head said he had referred to Japan's participation in the upcoming U.N. peacekeeping activities in Mozambique.

Butrus-Ghali, an Egyptian who assumed the top U.N. post in January 1992, explained that he touched on the topic as "an example" as he called on Tokyo to make a greater contribution to the international community in the post-cold war era. His reference to the planned U.N. mission was not intended to press Japan to send peacekeepers to the war-torn south African country, he said. But he also said Japan's participation in U.N. peacekeeping missions in countries in Africa, and Central and South America would have "a political value and a symbolic value."

Asked about Japan's aspirations to join the U.N. Security Council as a permanent member, he said he thought there is a high possibility that Japan will obtain a permanent seat, but hastened to add that the decision can only be made by member states of the United Nations. Japan's further participation in U.N. peacekeeping activities, however, should have no connection to its desire to join the five permanent states of the U.N. Security Council, he said.

On the possibility of the U.N. getting embroiled in some regional conflicts in the course of its peacekeeping activities, Butrus-Ghali stood firm in explaining the U.N. role as a neutral mediator for peace. "Our basic policy in peacekeeping operations is to be neutral. The United Nations is a party in favor of peace," he said.

During his stay in Tokyo from Monday, Butrus-Ghali compared notes with Prime Minister Miyazawa concerning the role of the U.N. and Japan's greater international contribution. He also had an audience with Emperor Akihito and attended a ceremony to open the new permanent headquarters building of the U.N. University in Tokyo. Butrus-Ghali, 70, will leave Japan for New York on Friday.

Nakasone Asked To Be UN Committee Member

OW1802133293 Tokyo KYODO in English 1318 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—U.N. Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali asked former Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone on Thursday to be a member of a committee preparing memorial events to mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the world body.

Nakasone gave no specific reply to the request but said he would cooperate during his 40-minute meeting with Butrus-Ghali at the Akasaka State Guest House, where the U.N. chief has been staying from Monday as a government guest, according to Foreign Ministry officials. The world body will mark the 50th anniversary of its foundation in 1995.

Calling for more Japanese personnel contributions to the U.N., Butrus-Ghali was quoted as telling Nakasone that participation in U.N. peacekeeping operations by even one or two persons has meaning. Nakasone replied that he thinks Japan should cooperate with the U.N. within the framework of the Constitution, adding he wants to work out ways of boosting Japanese cooperation with the world body, the officials said.

LDP Members Set Up Japanese-Slovakia League

OW1602101293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0926 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 16 KYODO—Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Diet members set up a Japan-Slovakia Parliamentary League on Tuesday to promote friendship between the two countries, party officials said. The ruling party members decided on the setting-up of the league in a general meeting held in the House of Representatives Parliamentary Hall near the Diet building, the officials said.

The meeting chose Kiyoshi Mizuo as head of the league and Katsuhito Asano as secretary general, the officials said. Both men are lower house LDP members.

The Japan-Czechoslovakia Parliamentary League has been reorganized since the Czech Republic and Slovakia declared independence on January 1. Czechs and Slovaks had been negotiating separation, stemming largely from minority nationalist movements and the economic gap between the two states, ever since the popular "Velvet Revolution" overthrew the communist regime in 1989.

Takeshita Denies Involvement in Bank Deal

OW1702064493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0626 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 17 KYODO—Former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita denied Wednesday any involvement in a scheme to sell a gilded screen to the now-defunct Heiwa Sogo Bank at a grossly inflated price. Testifying as a sworn witness before the House of Representatives Budget Committee, Takeshita said he had never seen the gold-leaf screen and denied allegations that part of the 4 billion yen the bank paid for the screen in 1985 was channeled to him.

Shigeaki Isaka, a former auditor of the bank, testified Tuesday in a civil trial that he had seen a note naming Takeshita, then the finance minister, as a potential recipient of part of the payment for the screen. Isaka said Toshinari Manabe, president of Yaesu Art Gallery, showed him the memorandum saying 300 million yen would be channeled to Takeshita.

Takeshita, in answer to a question, said he has never met Manabe and never received money from him.

Isaka told the Tokyo district court the Heiwa Sogo Bank sought to influence Finance Minister Takeshita through his secretary Ihei Aoki in a bid to avoid being absorbed by Sumitomo Bank. Such a takeover was likely because Heiwa Sogo Bank was struggling with a massive amount of bad loans. Aoki committed suicide on April 26, 1989, the day after Takeshita announced his resignation as prime minister over the Recruit stocks-for-favors scandal. Sumitomo Bank absorbed Heiwa Sogo Bank on October 1, 1986.

Opposition Seeks Takeshita's Resignation

OW1802071293 Tokyo KYODO in English 0652 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Japan's three major opposition parties decided Thursday to introduce a resolution in the Diet demanding former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita's resignation for his alleged involvement in a money-and-mob scandal, sources said. The sources said the Social Democratic Party, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party made the decision at a meeting of their Diet affairs committee chairmen. It was not immediately clear when the proposed resolution will be introduced.

Japan's opposition parties have accused Takeshita of lying in sworn testimony about his role in the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin scandal. Takeshita, 67, has denied the allegations.

Diet Debate Stalled Over Sagawa Kyubin Scandal

OW1802064893 Tokyo KYODO in English 0623 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Debate in the House of Representatives Budget Committee was stalled Thursday as the ruling party failed to meet the opposition camp's demand for summoning additional witnesses to testify on the Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin money-and-mobster scandal. The Social Democratic Party [of Japan—SDPJ] (SDP) and other opposition parties are demanding that the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) agree to summon more witnesses to the panel before resuming debate on the budget.

Budget Committee Chairman Shigeru Kasuya, an LDP lawmaker from Tokyo, tried to start deliberations Thursday morning on the 72.4 trillion yen fiscal 1993 budget program, but opposition party members of the panel refused to show up. Wednesday's sworn testimony by former Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita and former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa failed to break new ground as they flatly denied involvement in the scandal. Kiyoshi Sagawa, founder of the Sagawa Kyubin parcel delivery group, declined to appear Thursday for Diet testimony, citing poor health.

The SDP, the largest opposition party, and Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party sought the appearance before the budget panel of Rekiji Kobari, chairman of the Fukushima Kotsu Co. bus firm. Kobari was reportedly involved in talks to help reconstruct the now-defunct Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin trucking firm with Takeshita, onetime LDP kingmaker Shin Kanemaru, and Hiroyasu Watanabe, former Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin president.

The Japanese Communist Party has also called for summoning Kanemaru, a former LDP vice president, and his Former Secretary Masahisa Haibara in connection with the scandal, which drove Kanemaru out of politics. Kanemaru, the drowsy-eyed politician from Yamanashi prefecture, quit politics last year after admitting he received 500 million yen in illegal contributions from Tokyo Sagawa Kyubin before the 1990 general election.

The LDP has set March 2 as the deadline for passing the fiscal 1993 budget through the lower house before sending it to the opposition-dominated House of Councillors.

Foreign Banks 'Frustrated' With Practices

OW1502142193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1351 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—Foreign banks and securities houses in Japan are frustrated with some Japanese business practices such as the main bank system and interlocking "keiretsu" relationship among affiliated companies, a survey showed Monday.

The survey, released by the Japan Center for International Finance, said those foreign financial companies welcome ongoing financial liberalization in Japan, particularly in Tokyo. But they see the main bank and keiretsu system as impediments to their efforts to expand their business activities, the report said. Such customs raise questions about the transparency of Japan's banking and securities administration, the report said.

Under the main bank system, the bank which provides the largest amount of loans to a company often takes the main role in the company's financial management and develops strong ties by sending executives or holding a large proportion of equity shares.

The survey covered 143 foreign banks and securities companies operating in Japan.

Group of Automakers Urges Income Tax Cut

OW1502044093 Tokyo KYODO in English 0329 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—The head of a leading automakers' group, at a Monday morning gathering of group executives and the trade minister, called for an income tax cut to stimulate consumer spending, Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) officials said. Japan Automobile Manufacturers Association (JAMA) President Yutaka Kume called upon MITI Minister Yoshiro Mori to cut income taxes and further improve social infrastructure, such as roads and parking lots, the officials said.

Kume, chairman of Nissan Motor Co., commented that the domestic automobile market "has continued to be sluggish, while exports are also getting harder," the officials said. Concern was voiced, among the 20 JAMA executives attending the meeting, over moves to enact a product liability law in Japan, which would make manufacturers automatically liable if their products caused accidents or injuries, they said.

The business leaders also expressed concern over moves in the United States to raise tariffs on minivan imports and over growing calls in Europe for a ceiling on the total number of Japanese vehicle sales, including vehicles produced locally, they said.

Mori responded by saying if the ailing economy is to be propped up, "it is most important to completely implement the supplementary budget for fiscal 1992 and to promptly pass the budget bill for fiscal 1993." Mori also said his ministry has asked the U.S. to take appropriate action concerning the issue of minivan tariffs and referred to the agreement between Japan and the European Community, under which assurances are given that local car production by Japanese automakers will not be restricted, the officials said.

LDP's Mitsuzuka Cautious on Income Tax Cut

OW1702064693 Tokyo KYODO in English 0630 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Takasaki, Feb. 17 KYODO—A senior ruling party official cautioned Wednesday against any hasty decision on an income tax cut to stimulate consumer spending.

Hiroshi Mitsuzuka, chairman of the Policy Affairs Research Council of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), told a press conference the matter of a tax cut should be discussed carefully after the government works out a new package of economy stimulus measures. He said the matter will be referred to the party's research council on the tax system, which is scheduled to study a revision of the nation's tax system.

The government has been under growing pressure from business organizations and trade unions to carry out an income tax cut to prop up personal consumption. Mitsuzuka said, however, that the LDP will push ahead with a tax reduction on housing loans.

Funada Urges Wage Increase To Lift Economy

OW1602042593 Tokyo KYODO in English 0359 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 16 KYODO—Japan's chief economic planner on Tuesday called for wage increases to encourage consumers to spend and pump energy into the faltering economy.

Hajime Funada, director general of the Economic Planning Agency (EPA), told a press conference after a cabinet meeting that it is "desirable" for companies to boost salaries, considering the weak state of the economy. He said, however, the government has no intention to force companies to do so. "Rather, I expect companies which have the leeway" to give wage hikes, he said.

With the economic distress lingering, most companies have shown signs of wanting to restrain wage growth as much as possible in this year's spring labor offensive, which started in late January. Labor unions are resisting such moves, arguing that income growth is an effective cure for the economic slowdown.

Employers Reject Calls for Larger Wage Hikes

OW1802045193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0437 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The chief of an influential employers' group Thursday rejected a labor leader's call for higher wage increases in annual spring wage negotiations, saying jobs must take priority over salaries. "We'll give priority to employment over wage increases in this year's spring wage negotiations," said Takeshi Nagano, head of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (Nikkeiren). Nagano made the remarks during a meeting with Akira Yamagishi, chairman of the eight-million-strong Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo), Japan's biggest trade union group.

Nagano criticized lawmakers in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) who called for higher wage increases to help boost consumer spending. Analysts said Nagano's stance seemed aimed at not further burdening companies in the already tough economic climate.

Nagano told Yamagishi he is troubled that some LDP members have made public comments about wage negotiations while emphasizing the need for income tax cuts and a further drop in the Bank of Japan's official discount rate to boost the economy. Yamagishi agreed on the need for income tax reductions, but appealed to Nagano to take into account stimulative effects of wage increases in deciding on them.

The spring wage negotiations, held in March and April, set nationwide pay scales for the fiscal year to come as negotiations take place between individual companies and their unions with each industry's leader serving as a trend-setter.

1992 Industrial Machine Orders Set Record

OW1502085193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0751 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 KYODO—Orders for industrial machines received by Japanese makers in 1992 inched up 0.6 percent from the previous year to a record high 6,112.5 billion yen, an industry organization reported Monday. The record high orders for the year stemmed mainly from increased spending on public works, the Japan Society of Industrial Machinery Manufacturers said.

Orders from the public sector jumped 12.9 percent to 1,145 billion yen and those from nonmanufacturers like electric power utilities and transportation companies rose 4.6 percent to 1,842.9 billion yen, the society said. In contrast, orders from manufacturers such as auto makers and electronics makers plunged 14.5 percent to 1,439 billion yen, it said.

The society also said export contracts for industrial machinery expanded 7.8 percent in 1992 from 1991 to 1,117 billion yen because of active orders for boilers and transport machines from Southeast Asia and plastics processing machines from the United States.

Watanabe Vows To Recover Physical Strength

OW1802054193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0516 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 15 [date as received] KYODO—Ailing Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe vowed Thursday that he would work to recover his physical strength, his top aide Taku Yamasaki said.

Yamasaki, announcing Watanabe's telephone message to members of his faction in the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), quoted the foreign minister as saying his fever has stopped and his appetite has returned. Watanabe, who is also the deputy prime minister, apologized to his faction members for causing concern about his health and said he would rest for some time, Yamasaki said.

Watanabe, 69, was taken to Tokyo Women's Medical College Hospital for the second time in nine months on Monday, the day after he returned from the United States. Foreign Ministry officials and aides say Watanabe suffered from a "cold and fatigue." On Monday, his physician told reporters that the foreign minister "needs to be in the hospital for a week or two."

Watanabe, head of the LDP's third largest faction, is regarded as the No. 2 man in the cabinet of Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Mori: Plutonium Vital to Tokyo's Energy Needs

OW1802042193 Tokyo KYODO in English 0346 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—The use of plutonium is essential to meet Japan's electric power needs, International Trade and Industry Minister Yoshiro Mori told a gathering on promoting nuclear power Thursday. Mori urged executives of electric power companies at the meeting to continue efforts to establish the nuclear fuel cycle, an official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry (MITI) said. The official quoted Mori as saying, "It is important for Japan, which is not blessed with energy resources, to recycle uranium and plutonium."

Mori cited three measures to promote the location and development of nuclear power facilities with a view to attaining generating capacity of some 50 million kilowatts of atomic power in 2000 and 72 million kilowatts in 2010. The measures are: increasing subsidies to fund the cutting of electricity charges for areas where reactors are located, creating new subsidies to improve living standards in regions where such facilities are to be built, and setting up a committee under the Electric Power Development Coordination Council, he said.

Demonstration Breeder Faces Building Delay

OW1802150193 Tokyo KYODO in English 1435 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 18 KYODO—Construction of a demonstration fast breeder reactor (fbr) in Japan is now facing delay due to problems in designing and research, power industry sources said Thursday.

The sources said the Atomic Energy Commission's long-term program for peaceful application of nuclear power, drawn up in 1987, calls for construction of a demonstration fbr to begin in the latter half of the 1990s. Japan has already constructed an experimental fbr and a prototype fbr. However, actual construction is likely to be postponed until 2000 or later because of a delay in designing and research, being undertaken mainly by the Japanese power industry, they said. They said the industry is generally in favor of constructing a quake-proof building with a foundation of wide circular shock- absorbers to house the projected fbr, which should keep construction costs to a reasonable level while safeguarding the reactor against earthquakes.

Final study is now under way to decide whether the proposed vibration-absorbing structure will be adopted.

The proposed fbr building will have shock-absorbing devices—"shallow cylinders" made of laminated steel plate and rubber—between its foundation and the base rock. Existing buildings which house nuclear reactors are reportedly quake-proof but lack this particular type of foundation.

Power industry researchers said high-temperature operation is required of an fbr, but that this means the reactor casing must be relatively thin to prevent the reactor itself from overheating. However, to protect the reactor from earthquakes, the casing has to be relatively thick.

The new idea is to make a relatively thin-cased reactor safe against earthquakes by adopting the new shock-absorbing foundation for the reactor building, the researchers said. They said tests showed that a building with such a foundation could withstand much stronger vibrations than conventional reactor buildings. They said there would be no technological problem in constructing such a reactor and building.

Japan Atomic Power Co. is now preparing to make a conceptual design for a demonstration fbr at the request of the power industry to be completed by this autumn instead of by the end of March as initially planned.

Vice Farm Minister's Retirement Postponed

OW1602034493 Tokyo KYODO in English 0306 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Tokyo, Feb. 16 KYODO—The retirement of Jiro Shiwaku, vice minister for international affairs at the Farm Ministry, is to be postponed for a year because of his role in the Uruguay Round of global trade talks, the agriculture minister said Tuesday.

Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Minister Masami Tanabu told reporters after a regular cabinet meeting about the unusual extension of Shiwaku's term until the end of March next year. "Because the vice minister is familiar with the Uruguay Round and cannot be replaced by any other person, we asked him to remain in his position," Tanabu said.

Shiwaku has been involved in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations being held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) since the global talks started in 1986. The vice minister reached the retirement age of 60 last October and was supposed to retire at the end of March this year.

North Korea

DPRK Red Cross Demands ROK Release Yi In-mo

SK1702105793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1014 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 17 (KCNA)—A spokesman for the Central Committee of the Red Cross Society of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea published a statement today in connection with the fact that old man Yi In-mo, a former war correspondent of the Korean People's Army, in detention in South Korea, is now in a critical condition with malignant phenomia.

Saying the South Korean authorities and Red Cross must bear responsibility for having held him incommunicado in South Korea and driving him to a critical state, the spokesman bitterly denounced the inhumane treatment of him as a criminal act contrary to human ethics and conscience.

He stressed:

It is a very urgent matter which brooks no further delay that old Yi In-mo should be returned home at an early date as his illness is in a critical phase.

The Central Committee of our Red Cross Society strongly demands that the South Korean authorities and Red Cross take an urgent step to transfer old Yi In-mo to our side as soon as possible so that he may receive a medical treatment, though belatedly.

We solemnly warn that if the South Korean authorities and Red Cross lend a deaf ear to our demand and continually hold old man Yi In-mo, now in a critical state, and irretrievable accident should happen to him, they would be held wholly responsible for the consequences arising therefrom.

CPRF Condemns ROK 'Patriotic Forces' Suppression

SK1302050193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0442 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 13 (KCNA)—The Secretariat of the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland [CPRF] Friday published its Information No. 621, condemning the South Korean authorities for brutally suppressing and punishing pro-reunification patriotic forces by invoking the "National Security Law".

The South Korean rulers inflicted prison terms upon student Tae Chae-chun, chairman of the "National Council of Student Representitives", Father Nam Kuk-hyon who was involved in deciding to send Father Mun Kyu-hyon to the northern half of Korea to help the return home of student Yim Su-kyong and Sin Hyon-chun, a postgraduate of economics at Seoul National University who wrote an article "Theory, History and Reality of Socialism", the information says and goes on:

The repressive row in South Korea is an unpardonable fascist action to deny national reconciliation and reunification, aggravate the North-South relations and stamp out all pro-reunification patriotic forces of South Korea even after the North-South agreement was adopted and effectuated.

The punishment of pro-reunification patriots, a product of collusion between the new and old ruling forces of the "Democratic Liberal Party [DLP]", tells that the new "regime", too, cannot but be a fascist "regime".

The South Korean rulers' clamour about "civilian politics" and "reunification" is a shameless trick and an intolerable mockery of the entire fellow countrymen who aspire after reconciliation and reunification.

The South Korean rulers should act with discretion, squarely seeing the ardent desire of the South Korean people to realize national reconciliation and reunification with the stand of national independence.

History will never pardon the anti-national and anti-reunification criminal acts of the South Korean rulers who brutally suppress and punish the pro-reunification democratic forces while trying to launch the large-scale "Team Spirit" joint military exercises to attack the fellow countrymen in league with the outside forces.

If the "DLP" regime with a signboard of "civilian politics" is to clear itself from the dishonour of the fascist dictatorship group, it should abolish the anti-reunification fascist evil laws such as the "National Security Law" and set free without delay all the patriotic people who have been illegally arrested and imprisoned.

Pro-Reunification Organization Formed in Moscow

SK1302104293 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1007 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 13 (KCNA)—The inaugural meeting of the Russian Committee for the Promotion of Korea's Reunification (ASOK) was held in Moscow on February 10.

The rules and program of the organisation were adopted and Yi Tong-chol was elected chairman at the meeting.

The meeting formed a 19-member committee and a 9-member standing committee.

Daily: Japan Intends To Be Military Power

SK1802085693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0508 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Sinister Intention Revealed Again"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—The Japanese foreign minister, during his recent trip to the United States, called for strengthening the "Japan-U.S. cooperation for security" and urged the need of the presence of U.S. Forces in the Asia-Pacific region and revealed the intention of Japan to hold a permanent member seat of the United Nations Security Council.

Commenting on this, NODONG SINMUN today says this disclosed the Japanese authorities' sinister intention to become a military and political power and realise their dominationist design.

The analyst notes:

"Japan-U.S. cooperation for security" is aimed at establishing a dominationist order for the United States and Japan in the Asia-Pacific region.

Japan has become the world's second after the United States in military expenditures and is reinforcing the "Self-Defence Forces" qualitatively and quantitatively under the cloak of "cooperation for security". The Japanese authorities are now working hard to get a permanent member seat of the U.N. Security Council, clamouring about the "maintenance of peace" and "military contribution" to it. This shows their scheme to increase its political influence on the international community in reliance upon a powerful military force.

Japan's advertisement of the "usefulness" of the U.S. Forces' presence in the Asia-Pacific region is nothing but a ruse to realise its aggressive design by availing itself of the U.S. aggressive Asia policy.

Overseas aggression will lead Japan to self-destruction.

The Japanese authorities must clearly see the situation and act with discretion.

Workers Party Hosts Visiting Cambodian Group

SK1802050993 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0606 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 17 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] gave a banquet for the visiting Funcinpec [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party delegation at the [words indistinct] Hall on Feb. 16. [words indistinct] Yi Chong-ok, member of the Politburo of the WPK Central Committee and Vice President, [words indistinct] His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk upholding the [words indistinct] is an expression of deep trust of the entire Cambodian people in him. "The achievements made by the Cambodian people in the efforts for national reconciliation and unity, the country's stability and redressment are associated with the devoted efforts of the Funcinpec party", he said.

Stating that the Funcinpec Party led by Chairman Samdech Norodom Ranariddh set it as its task to build a new Cambodia, independent, neutral, peaceful and cooperative, and is conducting positive activities for its materialisation, he said "we highly estimate it."

"Our party and people will fight shoulder to shoulder with the Cambodian people in the struggle for the building of a new society against imperialism, true to the noble intention of the leaders of the two countries who have established deep intimacy, he stressed.

Head of the delegation Samdech Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the Funcinpec Party and member of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia, said in his speech "we look ahead to the advantages and eternity of socialism through Korea."

He noted:

This brilliant example set by the dear leader His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il in building the Korean-style socialism successfully by wisely leading the Korean people indicates the true way of building socialism.

The Cambodian people respect and look up to the dear leader His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il who has strengthened and developed the Democratic People's Republic of Korea into a socialist power and the Korean People's Army into indestructible revolutionary Armed Forces.

The Cambodian people and the world's progressive people deem it an honor to congratulate him on his 51st birthday.

The unbreakable, invincible relations of friendship have been forged between us with the fraternal intimacy between the great leader His Excellency Generalissimo Kim Il-song and His Royal Highness Samdech Norodom Sihanouk. This has become all the more solid with the intimacy between His Royal Highness and the dear leader His Excellency Marshal Kim Chong-il.

The Funcinpec Party will make every possible effort to further develop the friendly relations with the Workers' Party of Korea and between the two countries and two peoples.

WPK Group Returns From Latin American Visit

SK1602004993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1300 GMT 14 Feb 93

[Text] A Workers Party of Korea [WPK] delegation led by Kim Hyong-u, deputy director of a department of the WPK, returned home by airplane on 14 February from a visit to Latin America.

Kim Il-song Greets Gambian President

SK1702105693 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1016 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 17 (KCNA)—President Kim Il-song of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea today sent a message of greetings to President of the Republic of Gambia Dawda K. Jawara on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the independence of Gambia.

In the message President Kim Il-song wished the president and the people of Gambia success in the work for the prosperity of the country and expressed the conviction that the friendly relations between the two countries would develop continuously.

International Chuche Leader Reports 1992 Actions

SK1802064493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0448 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—Kenichi Ogami, secretary general of the International Institute of the Chuche Idea (IICI), made a report on the work of the IICI in 1992 at a meeting of the 6th executive committee of the IICI board in Paris on February 12.

He said the world progressive people keenly feel that today the chuche idea is the most correct guiding idea indicating the road for mankind to follow at a time when socialism has collapsed and referred to the enormous achievements made last year through the energetic study, propaganda and dissemination of the chuche idea.

He went on to say:

The ideological and theoretical level of the followers of the chuche idea has risen to a higher stage.

All the chuche idea study groups and students of the chuche idea of the five continents made deep study of the chuche idea mainly with new classical works published by respected President Kim Il-song and respected His Excellency Kim Chong-il and briskly conducted regular seminars, national seminars, lectures and courses.

Notably, the international seminar on the present times and the chuche idea in Tokyo in April last year and the international seminar on the chuche idea dealing with independence and peace of the world in New Delhi in February were not only great political festivals of the followers of the chuche idea and the world progressive people celebrating the 80th birthday of respected President Kim Il-song, the founder of the immortal chuche idea, and the 50th birthday of dear His Excellency Kim Chong-il but also grand study meetings for acquiring the truth of the chuche idea as the guiding idea of the times and its invincible might.

In the past the followers of the chuche idea put emphasis on grasping the universal principles of the chuche idea. But last year they studied them in combination with realistic matters. Thus we inspired people of many countries around the world at different stages of development with hope and courage and showed a bright road of truth to people who had been groping in darkness for truth, having lost confidence.

With the attraction of the chuche idea growing, the activities of the chuche idea study groups were invigorated and the ranks of the followers of the chuche idea expanded rapidly.

The international institute of the chuche idea, the Asian regional institute of the chuche idea, the African regional committee for the study of the chuche idea, the Latin American institute of the chuche idea and the European society for the study of the chuche idea intensified their activities and regional institutes of the continents conducted brisk activities to study the chuche idea and propagandize and disseminate it among people of all walks of life by having contacts with the national committees for the study of the chuche idea which had been organized in dozens of countries on the respective continents.

Five new national committees and 25 groups for the study of the chuche idea were inaugurated in 18 countries worldwide last year to begin their activities and the chuche idea study groups were built up more firmly in nine countries in compliance with the requirement of the obtaining situation.

Now there are more followers remaining outside study organizations than those who have joined them, and their ideological and theoretical level is high.

Chuche idea study groups were inaugurated in countries where socialism had been frustrated and the number of the followers of the chuche idea is growing day by day.

Parties of many countries are assiduously studying the chuche idea and the chuche-based theory of party building and are gradually applying it to their activities.

The reporter stressed the need to wage more vigorous activities for the study of the chuche idea and its propaganda and dissemination this year with the conviction of certain victory.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting, which says that Comrade Kim Chong-il's work "on the fundamentals of revolutionary party building" is a party declaration of chuche in the present times which clearly indicates the road of staunchly defending the cause of socialism and pushing ahead with it and the followers of the chuche idea in the world should continue to strengthen the activities for studying and disseminating the work and more forcefully advance along the road of independence indicated by the chuche idea.

8th Congress of LSWYK Opens 18 Feb in Pyongyang

SK1802055793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0425 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—The 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) opened here today.

The great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il were present at the congress.

It was attended by delegates of 5 million members of the LSWYK.

Following is the agenda of the congress:

1. On the task of the LSWYK to firmly prepare the young people to be a young vanguard unfailingly loyal tothe party and the leader.

2. On the summing of the work of the central auditing-commission of the LSWYK.

3. On the revision of the rules of the LSWYK.

4. On the election of the central guiding bodies of the LSWYK.

The first item on the agenda will be discussed at today's session.

The congress is a congress of loyalty and singlehearted unity which demonstrates to the world the unshakable faith and will of the Korean young people to staunchly defend and accomplish, the party's cause and the cause of socialism, united around the party and the leader as firm as a rock.

WPK Congratulates Congress

SK1802060393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0421 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] sent a congratulatory message to the eighth congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) that has opened here today.

The eighth congress of the LSWYK is a congress of loyalty, a congress of singlehearted unity at which the LSWYK organisations and young people, the dependable political reserves of our party, will demonstrate their unshakable faith and will to firmly defend and carry to completion the socialist cause of chuche through generations, rallied rock-firm around the party and the leader, and a historical congress which will open a new turn in the development of the youth movement in Korea advancing under the banner of the chuche idea, the message says, and continues:

From the first days when he stood at the head of our revolution, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song regarded the young people as the reliable main force of revolution, united the young communists of the new generation to hew the path of the Korean revolution and established a brilliant tradition of the youth movement of Korea in the flames of the glorious anti-Japanese revolutionary struggle.

Our party has developed the Korean youth movement into a glorious movement to carry to completion the revolutionary cause of the leader through generations, set it as the general duty of the LSWYK in its work to model the ranks of youth on the chuche idea in keeping with the demand for modelling the whole society on the chuche idea and is energetically leading the work for its realisation.

In the heat of triumphant advance of the youth movement of our country, our young people, full of vigour, have performed undying exploits for the country and people, pushing through an arduous and complex road of revolution.

Today our young people are firmly determined to carry the socialist cause to accomplishment, cherishing loyalty and filial duty to the party and the leader as their life and soul and displaying wisdom and courage of youth to the full in the grand struggle to fulfil the far-reaching plan of the party to exalt socialism of our style, upholding the revolutionary slogan "when the party is determined, we will do anything!"

It is a great joy and pride of our party and people that the young people of the third and fourth generations are reliably growing as a revolutionary generation faithfully carrying forward the cause of the party following the first and second generations of the revolution and, as we have a large contingent of admirable youth, the future of our party and revolution, our country and nation, is immensely bright.

The Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea highly appreciates the great exploits and feats performed by the LSWYK and our youth in the noble struggle for the prosperity and development of the country and the victory of the revolutionary cause of chuche under the leadership of the party and the leader.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has said:

"Developing the revolutionary cause of chuche and ensuring that it is brought to completion through generations is the supreme revolutionary task confronting the youth of our age and an honourable mission for the League of Socialist Working youth."

Loyalty to the party and the leader is the lifeblood of the LSWYK.

LSWYK organisations should lay main stress on education in the spirit of loyalty to bring the greatness of the party and the leader home to the youth, so that they may trust the party and the leader as the support of mind, follow the party and the leader to the end in any adversity andunswervingly take it as the first revolutionary faith to remain unfailingly loyal to the cause of the party.

The five million members of the LSWYK should carry forward the pure and clean tradition of loyalty to the party and the leader, the noble revolutionary spirit which the preceding generations of the revolution fully displayed in the days of the anti-Japanese revolution and the rigorous fatherland liberation war and handed over to the youth of the new generation and should politically and ideologically defend the party and the leader with their own lives, all becoming rifles and bombs, and staunchly fight for the final victory of socialism of our style.

If the youth is to become a dependable young vanguard of our party, they must deeply cherish Korean-nation-first spirit and have a firm faith in the victory of socialism and strong will to bring the socialist cause to accomplishment.

The LSWYK organisations should make the youth deeply understand the justness of the socialist cause of chuche and inevitability of its victory so that they may grasp as their rock-firm faith the truth that our socialism under the tested leadership of the great party is sure to triumph, repulsing any challenge and obstructive machinations of the imperialists and reactionaries.

All the youth should defend the red flag of the revolution, the banner of socialism to the end and discharge their mission as successors to the revolutionary cause of chuche by courageously breaking through difficulties and trials on the road of revolution, full of conviction of victory and revolutionary optimism, as the situation is complicated and the offensive of the reactionaries is intensified.

The congratulatory message calls upon the youth to play the role of a vanguard, a shock brigade in production and construction and actively apply for enrollment in the people's army and sincerely serve the army to stoutly prepare themselves politically, ideologically and physically and in military technique.

The congratulatory message calls upon the LSWYK organisations to firmly establish in the league the revolutionary work system upholding the idea and leadership of our party, carry through the lines and policies of the party and establish a strong discipline under which the whole league acts as one under the monolithic guidance of the party.

Kim Chong-il Work Conveyed

SK1802061393 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0435 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—"Let Us Develop the Youth Movement in Our Country to a New Height" the talk of Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, to the leading officials engaged in the work with young people on January 5, 1993, which had been brought out in booklet, was conveyed to the delegates to the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea [LSWYK].

Saying how to develop the youth movement is an important matter related to the destiny of the party, the revolution and the nation, Comrade Kim Chong-il in the work propounds the position of the youth movement in the revolutionary movement for realizing the independence of the popular masses and the essence and fundamental mission of the socialist youth movement.

The work points out that the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forward chuche-oriented idea and theory on the youth movement in each period and at each stage of the revolution and has wisely led our youth movement. It stresses that the Korean youth movement has been strengthened and developed as a chuche-based socialist youth movement of our style as it has the outstanding idea and theory on the youth movement and the glorious revolutionary traditions established by the respected leader Comrade Kim Il-song.

The work newly formulates it as the fundamental principle of the socialist youth movement to develop the youth movement as a loyal youth movement for upholding the idea and leadership of the party, as a massive youth movement for uniting broad segments of young people around the party and as a militant youth movement for unconditionally fulfilling the revolutionary assignments given by the party and stresses the need to develop our youth movement, tightly holding this fundamental principle as ever.

The work says that the main task facing the Korean youth movement at present is to prepare the young people more firmly as the young vanguard resolutely defending and glorifying our-style socialism centred on the popular masses in hearty response to the leadership of the party.

It indicates ways for substantially conducting the ideological education of the young people in various forms and methods suitable to their characteristics, firmly building up the LSWYK organisations, enhancing their function and role and strengthening the party's guidance in the work of the LSWYK.

The work stresses that the young people should play a vanguard role in the nationwide struggle to accomplish the cause of national reunification at an early date, strengthen solidarity with the world progressive youth and actively support and encourage their struggle to make the world independent.

The work of Comrade Kim Chong-il is a historical document which formulates and consummates from a new angle the new ideas and theories on the youth movement and youth problem and an immortal militant banner forcefully rousing the LSWYK organisations and the young people in the struggle to accomplish the cause of socialism.

A meeting for conveying his work was held at the February 8 House of Culture Wednesday.

Papers Mark Congress Opening

SK1802085193 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0503 GMT 18 Feb 93

["Congress of Loyalty of Korean Young People"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 18 (KCNA)—Papers here today run editorials on the opening of the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth [LSWYK] of Korea here today.

Under the headline "Congress of Loyalty of Korean Young People Who Are Vigorously Struggling, United Rock-Firm Behind the Party" NODONG SINMUN says the 8th congress of the LSWYK marks a significant milestone powerfully demonstrating the indomitable faith and unshakable will of the Korean young people to share the same destiny with the illustrious leader forever and unswervingly walk the long road of revolution, faithfully upholding the leadership of the party.

The editorial quotes the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il as saying:

"In the course of their worthwhile struggle for the prosperity of the country and for the people's happiness, our young people's ideological and mental characteristics have changed beyond recognition. With unfailing loyalty to the party and the leader, our young men and women are working with devotion to safeguard and implement the party's lines and policies."

The editorial goes on:

Rallied steel-like around our party today are millions of young men and women who are steadfastly defending the leader of the revolution as lifeguards and death-defying corps, strusting and following only their party and the leader.

Through the congress the greatness of our party which has successfully solved the youth problem will be powerfully displayed at home and abroad and the trust of the young people in our party will become deeper. The noble traits of devoting precious youth without hesitation for the party and the leader, the country and the people, the collective and comrades will be fully displayed among our young men and women.

The 8th congress of the LSWYK also marks an important occasion in increasing the might of our country in every way and firmly defending and carrying to accomplishment socialism of our style under the wise guidance of the party and the leader.

The congress is a milestone which will instill into the minds of the entire young people deeper conviction that there would be victory, if socialism is defended, and death, if it is abandoned and enable them to actively turn out in socialist construction with strong will and firm conviction that we will always emerge victorious as there is the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

It is of great historical significance in the struggle to strengthen and develop our youth movement to a new, higher stage. It will review the precious achievements and experiences attained in the struggle to carry out our party's policy of the youth movement after the 7th congress and set forth a new aim of struggle and militant tasks and, as a result, the work with our youth and children will be further deepened and invigorated and the militancy of the youth organisations be lifted still further.

The 8th congress of the LSWYK will be recorded as a revolutionary and militant congress which will give confidence and optimism to the revolutionary young people of our era who are resolved to defend independence and socialism and deal a heavy blow at the imperialists and all hues of reactionaries bent on blocking the advance of socialism and depriving youth of their beautiful qualities and viability.

Leaders To Participate

SK1602111793 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1009 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 16 (KCNA)—A national meeting of 100,000 youths and students was held at Kim Il-song Square today to celebrate the birthday of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Present at the meeting were Pak Song-chol, Politburo member of the Central Committee [C.C.] of the Workers' Party of Korea [WPK] and vice-president; Kye Ung-tae, Politburo member and secretary of the C.C., the WPK and other senior officials of the party and government, delegates from the provinces who have come to Pyongyang to participate in the 8th congress of the League of Socialist Working Youth of Korea (LSWYK) and members of the group of the League of Korean Youth in Japan visiting the homeland to congratulate the 8th LSWYK congress, and youth and students in the city.

When the columns of relay groups of the young vanguard for conveying loyal letters of pledge to the great leader President Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il entered the square, the participants shouted at the top of their voice "Long live the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song !" "Long live the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il!" "Kim Il-song," "Kim Chong-il".

Choe Yong-hae, chairman of the C.C., the LSWYK, made a speech and delegates of all walks of life took the floor.

The speakers said that as the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il was born as a bright star over Mt. Paektu amid the blessings of the times and people's wishes our people and youth are devotedly working to accomplish the revolutionary cause of chuche, enjoying the noblest life and happiness under the socialist system of our style centred on the popular masses.

The dear leader put up the young people as a precious flower of the country and the nation and the most powerful motive force of society, newly defined the essence of the Korean youth movememt from a new angle, set it as the general duty of the LSWYK to model the ranks of the youth on the chuche idea and wisely led the struggle for its realization in each period and at each stage of the developing revolution, they said.

All the LSWYK members and young people, they stressed, should staunchly defend and further glorify our-style socialist system built with the blood and by the sweat of the young people of the preceding generation under the leadership of the party and thereby powerfully demonstrate once again the invincible might and dignity of our country to the whole world.

For the present time we should make the 8th congress of the LSWYK as a congress of loyalty of the Korean young people successfully discharging the noble mission to the times and revolution and singlehearted unity, always sharing the destiny with the party, they said.

A message of greetings to Comrade Kim Chong-il was adopted at the meeting.

Kim Chong-il 'Selected Works' Published

SK1402090093 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 14 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 14 (KCNA)—"Kim Chong-il's Selected Works" Vol. 2 was brought out recently by the Workers' Party of Korea publishing house.

Contained in it are 29 classical works of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il published in the period from 1970 to 1972 which include historical speeches, talks and concluding speeches.

In his works including "On Further Enhancing the Party Work in Cinematic Art" he clearly expounds outstanding ideas, theories and policies for strengthening the Workers' Party of Korea as a revolutionary party of chuche and enhancing the party's leadership role in the revolution and construction.

Consummated comprehensively in the selected works are ideas, theories and policies for invigorating the building of the people's power, a powerful weapon of the revolution and construction and unique ideas, theories and policies on the chuche-oriented building of the economy, culture, and the Armed Forces.

Policies on accelerating national reunification and global independence are also wisely elucidated.

Workers Party Publishes Kim Il-song Interviews

SK1302052593 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1508 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Text] Pyongyang, February 12 (KCNA)—A book "Notes of Interviews With President Kim Il-song" was brought out by the Workers' Party of Korea publishing house.

This book edits only "Notes of Interviews With President Kim Il-song" from "President Kim Il-song," a book published in Japan.

It contains in chronological order notes of over 50 Japanese figures in political, public, cultural and other fields who had audiences with the great leader President Kim Il-song during their visits to Korea in the period from 1946 to 1990.

Tomomi Narita, ex-chairman of the Japan Social-Democratic Party, in his notes entitled "Most Distinguished Leader of People" wrote emotionally about President Kim Il-song's most unassuming, modest and tender-hearted popular traits, saying that he had visited Korea twice leading delegations and had audiences with the president each time.

The book also carries notes of Makoto Ichikawa, honorary chairman of the International Liaison Committee for Reunification and Peace in Korea.

In an article headlined "Congratulations to Respected President Kim Il-song, the Great Leader of Revolution, on his Birthday" he said he had been received by the great leader on seven occasions, telling about his deep emotions and feelings under the subtitles "First Visit to Korea, the Great Leader of Revolution," "After Meeting With President Kim Il-song", "On Unprecedented Hospitality Accorded Us by the President" and "Playing on the President's Affection Asking for Some Writing."

The book includes "Calling Me a Friend Faithful to Obligations," "An Ordinary Country, Not Special," "Discussing Disarmament and Peace With President Kim Il-song" and "We Hope for Success and Development of Korean-Style Socialism Centered on the Masses".

Unions Hold Meeting To Uphold Party's Leadership

SK1302092793 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2200 GMT 10 Feb 93

[Text] General Federation of Trade Union of Korea [GFTUK] functionaries and members held a meeting at the Central Workers Hall on 9 February and vowed to uphold the party's leadership with loyalty. Present at the meeting were Kim Chung-nin, secretary of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, functionaries concerned, and GFTUK functionaries and members.

Kim Yong-nam, vice chairman of GFTUK Central Committee; Pak Song-chun, chairman of Samsin Coal Mining GFTUK; and Kim Yong-hwan, worker of Pyongyang Thermal Power Complex delivered speeches at the meeting.

In the speeches they said: Party members and the working people throughout the country, surging with excitement, mark the 40th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War with a high sense of political zeal and brilliant labor achievement, upholding the military tasks presented by the great leader in his New Year address. It is under these circumstances, that GFTUK functionaries and members are holding meetings to vow to uphold the party's leadership.

They said: All GFTUK functionaries and members, marking the significant February holiday, overflow with a boundless gratitude and feeling of reverence for the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who has gained immortal achievements by leading the chuche revolutionary cause pioneered by the respected and beloved leader to a brilliant victory.

They pointed out: The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has led the working class to be a vanguard unit and a core unit in their struggle for the whole society's chucheization. He has also led them to outstandingly execute their lofty mission and duty.

They also said: The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has indicated the road ahead of the trade unions at each period and each stage of the developing revolution. He has also led them to discharge their duty as a reliable helper of the party and an enthusiastic defender and executor of the party policies, bestowing a great love care on the union functionaries and members.

They expressed their firm determination to make more energetic efforts for the ultimate victory of the socialist cause and for the fatherland's independent and peaceful reunification, upholding the party's leadership.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The best principle of the trade unions' activities is that of upholding the party's idea and leadership, being loyal to our party to the end.

The speakers stressed: All members of the working class and trade union members should make loyalty to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il their faith, conscience, morality, and life. They should prepare themselves for becoming strong chuche-type communist revolutionaries who are endlessly loyal to the party's cause.

They said that they would enhance the role of the working class and union members in the struggle to implement the party's lines and policies, following and upholding only the party in any adversity as a fortress and shield.

They stressed: Cherishing deep in their hearts the slogan "What the party decides, we will do," the working class and trade union members should effect a great upsurge in coal, power, and metal industry. They should try to increase the production of the people's consumer goods by carrying out innovation in the light industrial field. In addition, they should highly display the superiority of socialism of our own style.

They said: The working class and union members should cherish deep in their hearts the struggling spirit and vigor of the heroic fighters who defended Hill 1211 in the harsh days of the flames of war. By highly displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, they should also become a vanguard unit in their implementation of the party's plan. This plan is to enable all people to have rice with meat soup, to wear silk clothes, and to live in tile-roofed houses.

They said: They will create the strong trade union ranks and fortify their organizational idea and life. By further enhancing the role of the trade unions, they will foster all trade union members to be loyalists and dutiful children. In addition, they will effect a great upsurge in production and construction by positively conducting the mass movements, which include the Movement to Win the Red Flag of Three Revolutions, the Movement to Create Model Machines, and the Socialist Economic Movement.

The great leader's poem was recited at the meeting. In addition, the poem praising our party that has always been highly cherished in our people's hearts was announced.

Participants in the meeting sang a song together entitled "Let Us Keep Socialism" along with the revolutionary song "The Red Flag Song." They showed their firm revolutionary faith and will to uphold only the great leader and our party and to brilliantly implement the chuche-oriented revolutionary cause even in the rapidly changing situation, smashing the imperialists' and reactionaries' anti-socialist maneuvers.

A resolution was adopted at the meeting.

NODONG SINMUN Urges Revolution 'Innovation'

SK1702104493 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 17 Feb 93

["NODONG SINMUN Calls For Winning Great Victory in Socialist Construction Under Leadership of Great Party"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang, February 17 (KCNA)—NODONG SINMUN says in an editorial today that the Korean people who have greeted the auspicious holidays of February extend the greatest glory to the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il who has given them their worth of living and honour and led the revolution and construction along the ever-victorious road, performing immortal exploits for the times and history, and are filled with the firm determination to complete the socialist cause of chuche to the last under his seasoned leadership. All the party members and working people should effect a greater innovation and upsurge in the revolution and construction, deeply cherishing the pride and honor of having the most outstanding great leader who is leading the socialist cause of chuche to victory, standing in the van of the time of the revolution, says the editorial entitled "Let Us Advance Dynamically With Great Pride and Honour of Being Under the Leadership of Great Party".

It says:

Now our people have become the most proud and happiest people who [word indistinct] great national honor and fortune of making the revolution with the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il at the head of our party and Army.

The conviction that victory will surely come when they advance under the seasoned leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il is the main source of confidence and optimism of our people today.

All the party members and working people should advance in high spirits with redoubled vigor, firmly convinced that there can be no difficulty and no fortress impossible to occupy in the course of accomplishing the cause of socialism as long as they have the rare intelligence and seasoned and experienced leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il and they will be ever-victorious forever.

Now the imperialists and reactionaries are persistently maneouvering to isolate and stifle our republic, the bastion of socialism, and to stamp out our socialist cause, but none of them dare to provoke our people as they have the unbreakable unity of the party, the Army and the people firmly rallied behind the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. The pride and happiness of our people lie in that they resolutely defend the banner of socialism and effect an uninterrupted upsurge in the revolution and construction with full confidence of victory with the glorious party centre as their mental support.

NODONG SINMUN Exalts Wisdom of Party Leaders

SK1702041993 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0000 GMT 16 Feb 93

[NODONG SINMUN 16 February editorial: "Our Socialist Cause Advancing Under the Glorious Party's Banner Is Ever-victorious Forever"]

[Text] Our people's socialist cause is vigorously advancing toward greater victory under the glorious party's banner. Our party members and working people have vigorously been making innovations since early in the year with overflowing confidence and fighting spirit upholding the grand plan of socialist construction put forth by the party. This enables them to create new miracles and exploits that brighten the future of our socialist construction. This reality of today clearly shows the wisdom of the leadership of our party which opens the breakthrough in progress with firm faith and refined leadership.

The revolutionary spirit of our poeple advancing under the great party's leadership is very high and their struggle resolve is very good. It is the great joy of our people to greet the significant February holiday at a time when our revolution's wholehearted unity is strengthened more than ever before and when the high spirit of advance is overflowing in the entire country. All the party members, working people, and officers and men of the People's Army now recall our party's proud struggle history with great adoration for their great leader [widaehan yondoja] and great confidence in the revolutionary cause.

The struggle history of our party is the most glorious history of its leading the chuche cause along the ever-victorious road taking responsibility for the fate of the country, the nation, and the people. Our revolution has vigorously advanced scoring the greatest victories and exploits in the face of the stern trials and difficulties. The dear Comrade Kim Chong-il—who undertook himself on the road of the revolution with a firm resolve to complete our revolutionary cause which the great leader pioneered—has led the revolution and construction along the single road of victory at the head of our party, people, and revolutionary Armed Forces over a long period of time. This history is the brilliant history of the outstanding ideologist and theoretician who has brightened the future of the times with an extraordinary wisdom of chuche. It is the history of a great politician, an iron-willed brilliant commander who has created world-renowned exploits overcoming the stern tempest of the revolution with his indomitable will and tested leadership.

In these proud days embroidered with great succession and innovations, the heyday of the era of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] developed, and the dignity and position of our fatherland and nation reached the highest point. The thing in which we feel the greatest pride as we recall the struggle history of our glorious party is that we have firmly adhered to and brilliantly inherited and developed the chuche socialist cause.

Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the WPK Central Committee, has noted: The socialist cause in our country has advanced and has been victorious under our party's leadership, and it can only been brilliantly completed under the party's leadership.

The socialist cause is the party's cause, the leader's cause. The fate of socialism depends on how their leadership is ensured for it. Because our people enjoy the leadership of our party which brilliantly inherits and develops the revolutionary cause, they enjoy the glory of being the most proud people who realize the noble ideals of socialism at the head of the times and of being a heroic people who do not submit to any trials.

The achievements accomplished by our party center in advocating and adhering to our people's socialist cause and providing its brilliant future are truly great and triumphant. Our party provided an ideological and theoretical guideline in making it possible for our socialist cause to advance along the one road of chuche forever.

The socialist cause of our era is entering a high stage, and new ideological and theoretical problems are being endlessly put forth in the revolutionary practice. Only a prominent leader [yongdoja] who presents correct struggle strategy and tactics with extraordinary wisdom can lead the socialist cause of our era to the one road of victory.

Early on, the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il formulated the great Comrade Kim Il-song's revolutionary ideology and clearly elucidated its historical position. Thus, he brilliantly solved many theoretical and practical problems that the socialist cause is faced with. This historical course is characterized by the revolutionary and creative ideological and theoretical activities from beginning to end. That is, resolutely adhering to the leader's ideological and theoretical achievements that first pioneered the revolutionary road, and endlessly intensifying and developing the socialist theory in accordance with today's environment.

Our party's ideology and theory are militant banners that lead the historical struggle to victory in succeeding and completing the socialist and communist cause. These ideologies and theories enriched the treasurehouse of the history of human thought into a new asset. In these ideologies and theories all problems presented in putting into practice the socialist building are wholly elucidated. These include the problems of the legitimacy and fundamental superiority of socialist and social development; the general line of socialist building and tasks to fulfill it; and the principle and method of the building of the party, regime, armed forces, and the building of the economy and culture. Because of this great ideology and theory, a more magnificent future is being unfolded before the people struggling to smash all kinds of antirevolutionary currents and to adhere to socialism.

Through vigorous revolutionary practice, our party unfolded an overall blooming period of socialism of our own style centered on the popular masses on this land. As the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song planned early on, trying to build to the end an ideal society that completely embodies the independence of the popular masses on this land is a firm determination of our party. All activities and struggles by our party to build socialism stems from this firm determination and is characterized by brilliantly realizing it from beginning to end.

Our party energetically guided the revolution and construction. Therefore, the superiority of our socialism today is being wholly displayed in all fields. Socialism of our own style today that is blooming and developing under our party's wise leadership is an energetic socialism in which all the people are firmly united around the party and the leader and the revolutionary spirit is being vibrant among the whole society; a mighty socialism that is pressing hard on the heels of the enemy in whatever hardships on the firm basis of independence, self-support, and self-reliance; and is a superior socialism in which all the people enjoy to their heart's content an independent political life, abundant material life, and a sound ideological and cultural life.

Our country's reality clearly shows that when the people welcome the great leader [widaehan yongdoja] who firmly succeeds the existence of the socialist cause, they can enjoy a glorious life without suffering any kind of setback, twists, or turns. Our party achieved immortal achievements of firmly providing a strong chuche-oriented force that makes it possible for our socialism to be ever-victorious.

Today, the imperialists are afraid of the victorious advance in socialism of our own style, and are viciously maneuvering to isolate and suffocate us. Nevertheless, our socialism is not the kind of socialism to waver before the enemy's threat and blockade. It is also not the kind of socialism to easily collapse by being influenced by someone else. Our socialism can overcome any kind of hardship because it is in conformity with the strong political, economic, and military forces that were consolidated amid the arduous struggle under the party's leadership for scores of years.

In its ideological spirit, organizational spirit, revolutionary spirit, and militant might, our party center made the overall party ranks into the strongest vanguard unit that cannot be compared with anything else. Fundamentally changing the party's appearance under the slogan of "The Chucheization of the Whole Party," and strengthening and developing our party into a prospective party that has a bright future, are being elucidated as the greatest achievements accomplished by the party center in the struggle to adhere to the socialist revolutionary banner.

Under our party's leadership, the institutions of the people's government have been further strengthened as strong weapons for socialist construction. All working people's organizations have been further strengthened as the great transmission belts [injondae] which forge the blood ties between the party and the masses. Accordingly, our socialist economy has been strengthened and developed as the strongest, self-reliant economy by prospering on our own strength, come what may.

In particular, under the party's leadership, great progress is being made in building the chuche-oriented army. Our revolutionary armed forces' militant power is being strengthened. Thus, the whole army firmly rallies around the respected and beloved comrade supreme commander and thoroughly carries out the party's military line. Our revolutionary armed forces bring into full play the magnificent dignity as a one-a-match-for-100 army for the party and the leader.

The exploits of our party having established the firmest revolutionary outpost capable of fully defending and completing our socialism to the end, will be more brilliantly glorified with the advance of the revolution.

Our people's socialist cause is closely linked with the world revolutionary people's struggle to make the whole world independent. Our party, while smashing the imperialists' counterrevolutionary offensive, vigorously encourages and inspires mankind to advance the socialist cause.

The world's numerous revolutionary parties raise the Pyongyang declaration as a common struggle program. They are vigorously struggling to reconstruct socialism on a new basis. This is inconceivable apart from the positive struggle and influence of our party, which is unfailingly loyal to the independent cause of the working class and the working popular masses.

Thanks to the exploits achieved before the universal socialist cause and thanks to our party's resolute principle and revolutionary spirit, our party has been highly praised as the most dignified revolutionary party of the working class and as the guide of the socialist cause in our times.

Our party has carried out the great achievements for the socialist cause in our times. In this course, the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has clearly shown outstanding leadership traits as the sagacious leader [yongdoja] for the socialist cause.

Our party's outstanding leadership has been a wellspring enabling our socialism to shine with vitality, pressing hard on the heels of the enemy forever and which enables our country to shine as the firm buttress of socialism.

With the firmest faith and iron-willed volition, our party has led our people to victory. The prospect of socialism is decided by the leader [yongdoja]'s determination and faith.

A lesson of history shows that if ideology and faith change, the party will collapse organizationally and ideologically, public opinions will change, and the socialist system which has developed for tens of years will collapse.

The revolutionary faith and will of our party, which inherited the Mt. Peaktu lineage created in the arduous days of the anti-Japanese revolution and which was tempered and tested in the most arduous revolutionary struggle, are as firm as steel.

Our party is the party of loyalty which upholds the revolutionary red flag to the end. It remained upheld in the pioneering period of the revolution without wavering in the face of the trends of the times. Our party is the revolutionary party with matchless vigor and strong fighting spirit which bravely advances without retreating a step in the face of any difficulties.

Today when socialism is collapsing in various countries and the imperialists' anti-socialist maneuvers reach extremes, the indomitable faith and will of our party is becoming firmer.

Because our great party stands at the head of the revolution, our party glorified last year as the year of victory of faith and will while smashing the counterrevolutionary offensives of enemies who were trying to stifle and isolate our people's revolutionary cause. Today, our people are unfolding the road of socialist victory with the confident fighting spirit.

Our party, which has experienced leadership and the revolutionary driving forces to carry out skillfully any difficult task, is leading the socialist cause to victory.

The road of socialism our people have chosen is never dogmatic, insisting on following others' established experiences, nor is it free from ordeals and difficulties.

While hewing out the untrodden road, we have performed enormous revolutionary tasks that no one else has even begun. However, we have never [opsotta] experienced setbacks and twists and turns in the course of revolution and construction.

As our party faced a new militant task and tribulations in the course of advance, it scientifically penetrated all subjective and objective circumstances and the relations of [word indistinct]. Our party formulated outstanding strategies and tactics to make a breakthrough for advance. Our party led all of the party, people, and Army in carrying out the outstanding strategies and tactics.

Our party's organizational capability, which grasps the work of all fields of socialist construction, unites the 10 million masses, and leads them in fulfilling a goal, is an example of the revolutionary leadership which skillfully carries out the revolution like an artist.

Serving the people with devotion and sharing weal and woes with the popular masses are characteristics of our chuche-oriented party. Our party is the party that has gained wisdom, leadership, and work method among the popular masses.

Our party values the blood ties with the popular masses as if it were their own life, always mixes with the popular masses, promotes revolution and construction according to the opinions and requirements of the people, and resolves all issues by depending upon the popular masses' strength.

All lines and polices put forward by our party reflect the people's noble desire. The achievements gained by our party in the socialist cause were gained together with the people for the people. Upholding the great slogan "Serve the people," our party conducts the politics of benevolence for the endless happiness of the people. This clearly shows the people-minded characteristic of our party center.

In the course of the long-drawn-out and arduous struggle to construct the socialism of our own style, the ties between our party and people have reached a noble height. The revolutionary ties are like blood relations in which the leader [yongdoja] and the people share ideology, intent, and faith to the end. The revolutionary ties are firmest, cemented through noble revolutionary fidelity and morality.

Because we have great unity and solidarity that cannot waver in the face of any storms, our socialism is carried forward generation to generation while bringing into full play its invincible might.

Our people are assigned the heavy task of brilliantly completing our socialist cause by promoting the socialist road, pioneered in the forest of Mt. Paektu, to the end. In completing the chuche-oriented socialist cause to the end, it is most important for all people to cherish firm loyalty to the greatness of their party and the leader. The people's fidelity and will power advance the revolution. Belief in the leader [yongdoja] is the most important part of revolutionary fidelity.

If our people's spiritual pillar had not been firm, our people would not have resolutely defended the socialist banner when heterogeneous winds of various kinds blew and when the enemies increased threats and offensives. The spiritual pillar of faith cherished deep in our people's minds is the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il who has created the history of ever-victorious exploits through his chuche-oriented brilliant wisdom and tempered leadership.

Not only with the unfaltering faith that our party's ideology and leadership are best and that our socialism is best, but also with the indomitable will that we will gain a victory without fail as long as we have the party and the leader, we should vigorously advance along the single road of the revolution.

All party members and working people should have such an invincible mettle so they will never yield, even though they face death. They should be resolute fighters who defend our socialism. They should be genuine loyalists and filial sons who believe and follow only their party.

Thoroughly carrying out the party's leadership in revolution and construction is the most important demand to bring about a great upsurge in socialist construction. If socialism is our people's life, the party's leadership is the life of the socialism of our own style. Even though a great progress is made in the socialist cause, the principle of the party-minded leadership should never be abandoned. This is the lesson of history and the motto of the revolutionary people in our times.

The revolutionary work system—all the party, all the people, and all the Army should not only thoroughly embody the party's leadership in revolution and construction but also act under the unitary leadership of the party center—is firmly established in our society. This is a firm guarantee, which enables our socialism to advance along the single road of chuche for good.

We should constantly keep hold on it as the most important issue deciding success and failure in socialist construction to firmly guarantee the conformity of the party's ideology and leadership. By so doing, we should further strengthen and develop our party as the invincible revolutionary party with the iron-willed discipline and militant power.

Upholding the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—all functionaries, party members, and working people should vigorously promote an all-out march to glorify the 40th anniversary of the war victory as the victor's great festival. By so doing, we should constantly glorify the immortal achievements gained by our party in the course of carrying out the socialist cause.

By embodying our party's noble national and independent spirit, we should more vigorously accelerate the cause of reunifying the country. We should brilliantly carry out the mission and duty arising before the universal anti-imperialist independent cause and the socialist cause.

The single-hearted unity among the leader, the party, and the masses is the banner of our eternal victory and advance. The history of our socialist proud victory proceeded from the single-hearted unity. The brilliant inheritance of the history has been realized by the single-hearted unity.

The single-hearted unity of our revolutionary ranks becomes the invincible unity with the greatest validity. This is because we uphold the great leader [yongdoja] who brilliantly carries forward and completes the revolutionary cause as the center of unity and leadership.

For our people who should constantly wage arduous struggle for socialism, nothing is more important than defending and strengthening the great single-hearted unity like their eyes.

Let us unite, unite, unite, and again unite around the dear Comrade Kim Chong-il. This is the firm oath that our all revolutionary fighters take deep in their mind on the significant February revolutionary national holiday.

With the indomitable fighting spirit of the revolutionary martyrs who defended the center of the unity with their life, our people will uphold the party's leadership with loyalty. In the cause of upholding the party's leadership with loyalty, our people will fully demonstrate the mettle and valor of the heroic people who receive the great party's leadership.

Since a brilliant guiding star appeared in the sky over Mt. Paektu, half a century has passed. A more brighter prospect has been unfolded before our revolution.

As far as there is the great party, victory is always stored for us and we will defend socialism for ever.

Let us firmly unite around the party center headed by the respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song. Let us more vigorously advance for the final victory of the chuche-oriented cause and for the eternal prosperity and growth of our fatherland.

Yun Ki-pok Speaks at Three Revolutions Rally

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[Speech by Yun Ki-pok, secretary of the Workers Party of Korea Central Committee, at the central report meeting to mark the 20th anniversary of the initiation of the three revolutions team movement, held at the People's Palace of Culture in Pyongyang on 9 February]

[Text] Comrades: Today we greet the 20th anniversary of the initiation of the three revolutions team movement. At this time, all the people across the country are waging a vigorous struggle, upholding the militant task set forth in the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year's address, and firmly uniting around the party, to defend and adhere to and add more luster to the socialism of our own style.

Twenty years ago, in February 1973, based on his deep insight into the realistic demand of our country's socialist construction, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song initiated the three revolutions team movement, a strong driving force to push ahead with the implementation of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

Since it was initiated, the three revolutions team movement has been developed over the past 20 years. It has been a proud course in which the original ideas, theories, and outstanding leadership of the great leader and the dear comrade leader, who founded the new modern revolutionary method of guidance and who have exercised their leadership along the single road of victory, have been successfully applied in all domains of socialist construction. [applause]

We look back to the glorious path of victory of the past 20 years in which the three revolutions team movement has been continuously waged by upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and following the leadership of the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il. At the same time, we are firmly resolved to implement thoroughly our party's three revolutions line—ideological, technological, and cultural—in order to complete the chuche revolutionary cause to the end.

Comrades: The three revolutions team movement which our party created is a powerful movement to vigorously advance socialist construction by thoroughly realizing the party's revolutionary leadership in implementing the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il has noted: The three revolutions team movement is a movement to expedite socialist-communist construction as well as possible by thoroughly realizing the party's revolutionary leadership for the implementation of the three revolutions.

To vigorously develop the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—by firmly maintaining the general line of socialist construction and strengthening the party's leadership is a fundamental demand to highly exalt the superiority of the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style and to brilliantly complete the socialist cause. We should give priority to the ideological revolution, arm all members of society with socialist ideology, vigorously conduct the technological and cultural revolutions to build a firm material and technological base of socialism, and bring up all working people to be comprehensively developed communist men so that socialism can overcome all vicissitudes and trials and advance victoriously.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song put forth the outstanding idea for the first time in history that if we add the three revolutions to the people's government based on the chuche idea, it becomes communism. By embodying it, he put forth the three revolutions line—ideological, technological, and cultural—thereby splendidly elucidating the road to complete the socialist cause and to completely realize the independence of the popular masses. [applause]

The three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—can be successfully carried out only with the working class party's correct political leadership. The initiation of the three revolutions team movement and its developmental process in our country is closely connected with the process of the party's continuous revolutionary leadership of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. The reality of socialist construction which is deepened and developed with each passing day under the banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—demanded that the party's leadership for the three revolutions be further strengthened.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song initiated the three revolutions team movement based on the present demand for socialist construction in our country and his scientific analysis of the characteristics of the three revolutions, opening an original way to further strengthen the party's leadership for implementing the revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural.

The three revolutions team movement is a new type of revolutionary guidance method to accelerate the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—by combining the political and ideological guidance with the scientific and technological guidance, with the upper echelon helping the lower echelon, and rousing the working popular masses to vigorous activity.

The three revolutions team movement is vigorously pushed forward by solving the pending problems in a timely manner while the three revolutions guidance force always going down among the masses, thereby vigorously arousing the functionaries and working people into implementing the three revolutions and the party policy while working closely together with the party organizations of the relevant units, and by closely combining the political and ideological guidance with scientific and technological guidance based on specific understanding of the prevailing situation of the lower echelon.

The three revolutions team movement is a mighty movement which nominates the members of the three revolutions team—the great army of the youths and intellectuals armed with the chuche idea and equipped with advanced science and technology—as the propagators of the party's policy, its thorough assimilators and implementors and makes them fulfill their mission as lifeguards and death-defying corps for the party. By so doing, the three revolutions team movement brings up the three revolutions team members so that they may become our party's revolutionary vanguards and standard-bearers of struggle.

Truly, the initiation of the three revolutions team movement by the respected and beloved leader Comrade Kim Il-song was a historic event of epochal significance in thoroughly implementing the general line of socialist construction by further organizing and activating the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and in solving the problem of the party's revolutionary guidance method arising in the hitherto-untrodden road to socialism. [applause]

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song initiated the three revolutions team movement not only to provide us with the mighty driving force for the implementation of the three revolutions but also to wisely lead us so that this movement can continuously be intensified and developed. The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, initiating the three revolutions team movement, personally dispatched the three revolutions teams to various sectors of the people's economy, including the industrial and rural economic sectors. At the same time he gave the programatic teaching on further intensifying the three revolutions team movement at the important meetings of the party and the state, including the Kangso expanded meeting of the Political Committee of the party Central Committee held on 14 March 1973.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, on the way to the on-the- spot guidances that he gives continuously, grasped the specific status of the activities of the three revolutions teams, and led them with tender care so that they might fulfill their duty as the vanguards of the three revolutions.

The outstanding idea and policy on the three revolutions team movement put forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has been embodied even more brilliantly by our party's tested leadership. The dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il further deepened and developed and made a comprehensive and monolithic compilation of the chuche revolutionary theory on the three revolutions team movement in conformity with the demand of the present development. At the same time he put forth the revolutionary policies so that the three revolutions team movement may further display its vitality.

Our party proclaimed that the three revolutions team movement is a movement to thoroughly realize the party's leadership for the implementation of the three revolutions and that the three revolutions team work is an important component of party work which should be carried on forever. Thus, he clarified the essence and nature of the three revolutions team movement and the position and role of this movement in carrying out the cause of the socialist cause. Our party comprehensively elucidated the fundamental problems arising in intensifying and developing the three revolutions team movement at every phase of the revolution's development—including the basic duty of the three revolutions teams, the principles of their activities, their work system, and their work method—as well as ways to realize them. Our party exercised its energetic leadership so that all the three revolutions team members may fulfill their mission and role with an attitude befitting vanguards of the three revolutions dispatched by the party.

Our party, proceeding from the stance that young people, in particular, should become an honor guard unit and a do-or-die unit which resolutely safeguards and defends the party, sharing the destiny with it, has concentrated great efforts on seeing to it that young intellectuals temper themselves in a revolutionary manner and that, thus, they firmly grow up to become the party's revolutionary vanguards and struggle standard-bearers through their practical course of carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. Our party has vigorously led young intellectuals to participate in the three revolutions team movement so that they can outstandingly prepare themselves to become communist revolutionaries who have firmly established a revolutionary world view, who possess rich knowledge on science, and who have mastered the ability of indoctrinating and organizing the masses and the revolutionary work method. Our party has also always paid deep and constant attention and care to their activities and living.

Thanks to the tested leadership of the party—which, while attaching great significance to the three revolutions team movement, has stopped at nothing to assist the three revolutions team's work, and which has led all of the three revolutions team members to highly display their indomitable fighting spirit in carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—the three revolutions team movement has been able to display its vitality and, thus, to enjoy its constant development. [applause]

Under the wise leadership of the party and the leader the three revolutions team movement has thoroughly proven its vitality through its practical act for the past 20 years. In the course of the three recolutions team movement, first of all, the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—have been strengthened and developed, and a great turn has been effected in human remoulding work, as well as in economic and cultural construction.

On the strength of the three revolutions teams' active activities to implement the party's ideological revolution policy the main force of our revolution has been further strengthened, and the work of dyeing whole society one color has been vigorously carried out. The three revolutions teams have always concentrated preferential efforts on giving priority to the ideological revolution and actively carried out the work of educating and remolding people the communist way.

The three revolutions teams have aggressively carried out ideological indoctrination work through various forms and methods in combination with party organizations. In particular, they have strengthened indoctrination work for backward people to firmly rally them around the party. Thanks to the devoted activities of the three revolutions team members who, living and working together with the masses as anti-Japanese guerillas did in the past, have explained and propagated the greatness of the party and the leader, the correctness of our party's policy, and the superiority of socialism of our own style, the broad working people have devoted themselves to the implementation of the party's line and policy, while cherishing deep in their hearts the single-hearted mind of loyalty to the great leader and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il.

Our party's revolutionary vanguards have actively assisted functionaries and the working people so that they can not only resolutely oppose and reject all sorts of old ideologies, including modern revisionism, flunkeyism, and dogmatism, with chuche-oriented faith and revolutionary principle, but also highly display the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude.

The three revolutions teams have not only explained and propagated in detail among the working people the correctness and invincibility of the socialist cause that our party leads, but have also constantly waged ideological indoctrination work among them to lead them to resolutely oppose individualism and egoism and to firmly possess collectivist views on life. Thus, the three revolutions teams have vigorously seen to it that the collectivist life habit of "one for all and all for one" is highly enhanced in the whole society.

The ideological and mental features of all the people, including the working class and cooperative farm members, today are very good. Our people, who take it as their firm and invariable principle of life to share the same destiny with the party, are brilliantly carrying out the revolutionary duties assigned by the party without the slightest degree of trepidation and with the firm faith and determination to defend the party and the leader to the end, firmly trusting them as the pole of their minds, and to resolutely safeguard, defend, and glorify socialism of our own style.

The single-hearted loyalty to the party and the leader has been consolidated and unity and cohesion between the party and the popular masses are further solidified with each passing day. Furthermore, the fine communist custom impressing the people is in full bloom. These precious achievements include vigorous activities and achievements of struggle by three-revolution team members, who are standard-bearers of ideological revolution.

The three-revolution teams actively contributed to accelerating the nation's scientific and technological progress and to consolidating the foundation of the self-reliant national economy by upholding the party's technological revolution policy and by vigorously struggling for its implementation.

The three-revolution teams—worthy of forerunners in technological revolution who are possessed of modern technology—actively supported the new initiatives of producer masses, scientists, and technicians and strengthened creative cooperation with them. Thus, they set mass technological innovations fiercely ablaze in all domains and all units of the national economy.

In particular, the teams, which specialized in tasks of technological revolution, were dispatched to major production units according to the party's policy on directing great strength to the implementation of technological revolution in compliance with the demand of the reality in which science and technology are rapidly developing. Since that time, the technological renovation movement to strengthen the nation's economic self-reliance and chuche nature, to accelerate the modernization of technological means, and the scientification of production and business management has been carried out more vigorously.

Thanks to the creative wisdom and laborious research by young intellectuals participating in the three-revolution teams, a large number of valuable and precious scientific and technological achievements were made in the nation's economic and technological development.

Our reliable three-revolution vanguards dashed to any place, if so desired by the party, and set an example and boldly waged the technological renovation struggle to introduce mechanization, automation, and robots into production lines, thus demonstrating the spirit of self-reliance and arduous struggle. They accelerated production, and constantly increased the ranks of automated workshops and plants.

The three-revolution teams built a large number of medium and small-size power stations in a bid to more satisfactorily and more rapidly realize the party's plan to further upgrade the people's living standards in compliance with the demand of socialism. In addition, they actively inspired a broad range of masses to the struggle to increase the production of consumer goods everywhere and to improve the workers' living conditions, thus registering a great success.

Over the past 20 years, the three-revolution team members, who were dispatched to various domains of the national economy, have made hundreds of thousands of valuable scientific inventions, contrivances, and technological innovation proposals and a large number of young doctors, inventors, and labor heroes have emerged from among them.

As a result of the vigorous promotion of the three-revolution team movement, a decisive turn has been effected in the fulfillment of the three major tasks of the technological revolution and a leaping progress made in the implementation of the line of the chuche-orientation, modernization, and scientification of the national economy. Thus, our people's labor life has become furthermore delightful and worthwhile.

All achievements made in scientific and technological development and in the fulfillment of technological revolution clearly illustrate that the three-revolution teams, which are the ranks of young intellectuals who dedicate themselves to implementing the party's policy with a sense of ardent loyalty, with a high-standard of scientific and technological knowledge, and with untiring passion and vigorous spirit of youth, are a powerful force which has boundless potential in fulfilling the scientific and technological revolution. These achievements also proved the justness of our party's policy to bring young intellectuals to the front as forerunners of technological revolution. [applause]

Through the three-revolution team movement, a great progress was also made in the struggle to implement the party's cultural revolution policy.

The three-revolution team members have grown up to be a new-type of young intellectuals with lofty revolutionary spirit, noble morality and character, abundant emotion, and lofty cultural knowledge. They are playing a key role in the struggle to counter the imperialists' ideological and cultural infiltration with chuche-based socialist culture, to completely eradicate the last traces of backwardness left over in the cultural sector by outdated society, and to create and disseminate the working-class' new culture for the working masses.

The three-revolution team members, upholding our party's policy on intellectualization of entire society, upgraded the workers' overall standard of culture and knowledge through the educational system on studying while working, and actively helped the work of expanding the ranks of technological functionaries. Besides, they energetically carried out the work to propagandize and disseminate advanced scientific and technological knowledge among the masses.

While intensifying cultural education among workers and youths, the three-revolution teams vigorously inspired a broad range of masses so that productive socialist culture and tidiness in life be established in plants, enterprises and cooperative farms and that trait to revolutionarily work and live be established among the people.

The fulfillment of tasks of the cultural revolution has been promoted actively under the guidance and with the help of the three-revolution teams, with the result that the task of upgrading the general cultural level of working people to above that of senior middle school graduates has been carried out successfully and the efforts to improve the level of working people's technological knowledge has been made more briskly.

Our people, who were far behind modern technology and civilization in the past, became the genuine masters of revolutionary and popular culture which is brilliantly blooming and developing under the guidance of the party. We are freely enjoying sound and rich cultural and civilized life. We live and work harmoniously while helping and leading each other by cherishing the revolutionary comradely love and a sense of duty. We cannot think of such traits of our society without the three-revolution team movement which vigorously inspired cultural renovation work, together with ideological and technological innovations.

Today overall cultural and technological standard of workers in our country has reached to a very high stage. All workers are working in rewarding work sites, where excellent working conditions are provided, under civilized circumstances. Rejecting corrupt bourgeois ideology, culture and lifestyle, all people are enjoying sound, noble socialist culture and mental life. This reality clearly shows justness of the policy and sagaciousness in guidance of our party to vigorously push ahead with cultural revolution through the three-revolution team movement. [applause]

A great progress has been made through the movement in constantly improving and strengthening economic guidance and management to meet the demand of the Taean work system.

In the units to which they were dispatched, the three-revolution teams actively supported functionaries so as to turn economic management into the work with people, to regularize and standardize business management, and to thoroughly embody the chuche-based economic management and operation method of our own style based on the collectivist principle.

The activities of the three-revolution teams, which dedicate themselves to implementing the party's policy by cherishing the indomitable spirit, vigorously inspired all functionaries and a broad range of producer masses to carry out the party's policy with a lofty awareness of and a sense of responsibility for being the masters of ideological, technological and cultural revolutions. Thus, they set ablaze the movement to win the red banner of the three-revolution everywhere.

A large number of intellectuals of the younger generation have grown up to be dependable revolutionary vanguards intensely loyal to the party and the leader, and standard-bearer of struggle in the course of the worthwhile struggle to carry out the tasks of the ideological, technological and cultural revolutions. This is another precious fruition of our party's three-revolution team movement policy. [applause]

The serious lessons in frustration of socialism in many countries in recent years illustrate that the development and destiny of socialist society are greatly related to how the issue of intellectuals, particularly the issue of young intellectuals who grew up anew under socialist system, should be resolved.

Traits and quality of young generations' revolutionaries in socialist society are formed and developed mainly in the course of revolutionary training and seasoning in their political organizational lives and practical struggle for the socialist construction.

Our party has wisely led the three revolutions team movement to act as a communist school, a furnace for revolutionary seasoning, which educates young intellectuals of young generations to be revolutionary vanguards who have been schooled in the practical struggle and who have been revolutionized and working-classified, thus making it a great movement that greatly contributes to excellently solving problems concerning intellectuals and young people.

By actively participating in the three-revolutions team movement, our young intellectuals are firmly preparing themselves to be revolutionary vanguards who deeply bear the loyalty to the party and the leader as revolutionary faith and sense of duty, while more deeply learning by experience the greatness and benevolence of the party and the leader during the practical struggle to implement the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural. Also, they are stoutly growing up to be resolute struggling standard bearers, who oppose the rotten and ill capitalist society's reactionary ideology, culture, and way of living, and firmly abide by the revolutionary principles and socialist principles.

Hundreds of thousands of young intellectuals participating in the three revolutions team movement have grown up to be revolutionary vanguards and struggling stand bearers, who defend and protect the party and the leader politically and ideologically and who take the initiative in defending and implementing the party lines and policies. This is the most valuable result that cannot be exchanged with anything else.

Young intellectuals graduated from universities have grown up to be chuche-type enthusiastic revolutionaries who have been revolutionized and working-classified through the fruitful struggle to implement the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—and through their revolutionary organizational lives. A good many of three revolutions team members have grown up to be functionaries and young heroes who are faithful to the party and the leader.

Today, the ranks of our country's intellectuals numbering 1,600,000 million are faithfully upholding the party and the socialist cause, and young intellectuals of young generations are stoutly growing up to be reliable successors of the chuche revolutionary cause. These proud results are brilliantly engraved with the vitality of the unique intellectuals policy and the leadership achievements of our party, which has excellently brought up hundreds of thousands of young intellectuals to be revolutionary vanguards through the three revolutions team movement for the past 20 years. [applause]

Our practical experience clearly shows that we can brilliantly solve all fundamental problems emerging in the course of human reform, nature remaking, and social reform as well as successfully accelerate the cause of remolding the entire society after the chuche idea when we vigorously push ahead with the three revolutions team movement, firmly adhering to the general line of socialist construction.

Our party is vigorously pushing ahead the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—by creating new, modern revolutionary guiding methods with a firm chuche-based position and by thoroughly embodying it. Thereby, it is resolutely defending, protecting, and glorifying the socialism of our own style under any complicated situation. The immortal achievements of our party will be brilliantly shining along the victorious advance of the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause]

At this meaningful moment marking the 20th anniversary of the inception of the three-revolutions team movement, I extend the greatest honor and the heartiest gratitude with the boundless admiration and fervent loyalty of the three revolutions team movement, all party members, working people, three revolutions team members to Comrade Kim Il-song, the greatest leader of our party and our people, and the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il, who presented the general line of the socialist construction by embodying the chuche idea at an earlier stage, who have led with their outstanding and seasoned leadership the implementation of the three revolutions along the single road of victory, and who have bestowed the most worthwhile lives and honor to all of us. [applause]

Comrade, we are faced today with the honorable and heavy tasks of further safeguarding, defending, and glorifying the popular mass-centered socialism of our own style by adhering to the chuche revolutionary principle and line, thus upholding the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's militant tasks in his New Year address.

In his New Year address, the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: The justness and vitality of the principle of chuche in ideology, that of independence in politics, and that of self-reliance in the economy have been proven in the trials of history. We should continuously and firmly adhere to these principle. We should more vigorously carry out three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—by firmly adhering to our party's general line for the socialist construction.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has presented a militant task based on his deep insight into the demands of our country's socialist construction and the prospect of the world socialist movement at present. This militant task is a programmatic guideline, enabling our people to further glorify socialism of our own style by consistently implementing our party's chuche revolutionary principle and line.

We should firmly adhere to the chuche revolutionary line. We should continue to vigorously carry out three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—to resolutely safeguard and defend our socialism and to display its superiority and vitality more highly.

With the embodiment of our party's general line for the socialist construction, the three revolutions team movement is a work we should constantly adhere to in endlessly consummating the popular masses' cause for independence. By constantly deepening and developing the movement, we should vigorously carry out three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—to brilliantly realize the cause of making the whole society chuche- idea. Thus, we can build mankind's paradise in which the popular masses' independence is completely realized.

The heavy revolutionary mission facing us today and the present situation at home and abroad require our people to positively conduct the three revolutions team movement to effect a great upsurge in three revolutions.

Using the collapse of socialism in some countries as an opportunity, the imperialists and reactionaries are now foolishly dreaming of dominating the world by completely destroying socialism. They are also viciously maneuvering to block the march of our people who are moving forward under the socialist banner without any deviation in today's difficult situation.

No challenge or obstruction by the imperialists can frighten our people who are firmly adhering to the red banner of socialism under the great leader's and the great party's leadership. In addition, they cannot block our march.

Our people will firmly adhere to the chuche-oriented guiding principle of our revolution by displaying the revolutionary spirit of self-reliance and fortitude and the masses-oriented heroism. They will also make success in carrying out three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—upholding the party's militant slogan "Let us endlessly consummate the socialist cause by achieving the unity among the entire party, all people, and the entire Army."

Three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—line and the three revolutions team movement are the revolutionary banner and the powerful weapon, enabling our people to further safeguard, defend, and glorify socialism of our own style with their own might, while firmly adhering to the national independence, dignity, and revolutionary principle.

All party organizations, functionaries, and three-revolutions team members should be fully aware that vigorously carrying out three revolutions—ideological, technical, and cultural—and the three revolutions team movement are the important and responsible work, enabling our people to display more highly the superiority and vitality of socialism of our own style, a fortress of socialism. They should also make this year—a significant year of marking the 40th anniversary of victory in the Fatherland Liberation War—a year of the heroic struggle and victory in which our people can make a great progress in three revolutions.

Above all, party organizations, functionaries, and three-revolutions team members should resolutely safeguard, defend, and endlessly glorify the great achievement of the party's and the leader's leadership. This leadership has initiated the three-revolutions team movement, a unique revolutionary guiding method of our own style. This leadership has also led the movement to victory.

The party and the leader started the three revolutions team movement, presented the creative ideas, theories, and policies on the three revolutions team movement, and thus deepened and developed the three revolutions. As a result, the socialist march has been victoriously accelerated. These great achievements in leadership by the party and the leader are a very valuable revolutionary treasure and reliable asset in completing the socialist cause. All the party members, officials, and three revolutions team members must cherish deep in their hearts our party's achievements in leading the struggle to implement the ideas and theories on the three revolutions and devote their wisdom and energy to defending and glorifying them.

We must strongly arm ourselves with the party's ideas and theories on the three-revolutions team movement, deeply study and embody the history and wisdom of the party's leadership in brilliantly implementing the ideas and theories and its valuable achievements in deepening this movement, and solve all the problems in carrying out the three revolutions team movement based on the party's ideas and policies and in compliance with the party's intention.

In particular, the party organizations and three revolutions team movement members must persistently adhere to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's New Year address for this year and the ideas, theories, and policies on the three revolutions team movement which the dear leader Comrade Kim Chong-il presented in various programmatic works of his and tenaciously carry out three revolutions team activities always as required by the address and the ideas, theories, and policies.

To deepen and develop the three revolutions team movement and more highly display its vitality, we must concentrate our efforts on implementing our party's lines on the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural, and the three revolutions vanguards must play a leading role in this effort.

Giving priority to the ideological revolution, strongly arming the workers with the chuche-oriented socialist ideas, and strengthening ideological, volitional, and moral unity and cohesion around the leader [suryong] is a basic demand for defending and maintaining our socialism and highly displaying its superiority. Confrontation between socialism and imperialism is, first of all, an ideological confrontation. And, firmly maintaining the purity of the socialist ideas and strengthening political and ideological unity among the popular masses is a guarantee for a victory in a showdown with imperialism.

Historical experiences show that when the ideas undergo change and when unity and cohesion around the leader [suryong] are weakened, the working class party is degenerated and destroyed and that socialism goes out of existence.

The party organizations, officials, and three-revolutions team members must thoroughly carry out the revolutionary tasks, cherishing deep in their hearts the notion that our party's revolutionary leadership in which the party gives top priority to the ideological revolution is a key to the victory of the socialism of our own style despite any high winds and waves. The three revolutions team members must cherish deep in their hearts the honor and responsibility as a flag bearer of the ideological revolution and carry out ideological indoctrination work more substantially than ever to strongly arm the party members and workers with our party's revolutionary idea, the chuche idea; the greatness of the party and the leader; our party's honorable revolutionary tradition; and the superiority of the socialism of our own style.

In particular, the party organizations and three revolutions team members must have single-minded loyalty and filial piety toward the party and the leader among the party members and workers and an invincible and revolutionary will to carry out our socialist cause; further strengthen single-minded unity between the party and the masses; and positively carry out ideological indoctrination work to ensure that the party members and workers cherish deep in their hearts the truth that our revolutionary cause will achieve victory without fail as long as there is the leadership of the party and the leader.

An important guarantee for making greater achievements in ideological indoctrination work is for all the party members and workers to resolutely defend and maintain the socialism of our own style with a firm belief and will. The present situation, in which an ideological confrontation with the imperialists is more acute than any other time, requires the party organizations and three revolutions team members to strengthen ideological offensives to prevent even the slightest element of reactionary bourgeois ideas, revisionism, toadyism, or doctirinism from infiltrating us and to vigorously carry out ideological indoctrination work opposing individualism, egoism, and various other antiquated ideas. In this way, they must ensure that all the popular masses and workers highly display the noble collective spirit and revolutionary spirit of defending and maintaining the chuche-oriented socialist ideas and working for the party, revolution, society, and group with devotion.

We must use positive examples to influence people. For example, explaining, resorting to persuasion, and carrying out indoctrination work are powerful methods toward human and ideological remodeling. The three revolutions team members must deepen ideological indoctrination work by persistently and patiently giving explanations and using persuasion; set positive examples of the practical struggle to implement the party's lines and policies; and contribute to raising all the workers into becoming loyalists and dutiful children who devote themselves to the party and the leader and becoming genuine revolutionary fighters whose loyalty to the party and the leader are their belief and moral obligation and make it a part of our life and work.

The technological revolution is a basic guarantee for providing a material and technological basis for socialism and communism by remaking nature. The economic and technological fields are two other heated fronts in the confrontation between socialism and capitalism, and socialism's decisive victory over capitalism will be possible with the backing of strong economic might and developed science and technology.

With responsibility and the awareness of being vanguards in the technological revolution, the three revolutions team members must wage a bold and grand struggle to defend strongly and adhere to our party's line on building a self-reliant socialist national economy. They must independently solve scientific and technological problems in carrying out the chuche-oriented development and modernization of the people's economy and in applying science to the people's economy.

Young intellectuals must set high goals and vigorously carry out the scientific invention movement to study modern science and technology with young people's inexhaustible enthusiasm and spirit. In this way, they must vigorously develop technology that will develop the people's economy and contribute to rapidly the country's science and technology to a world level at an early date.

In particular, the three revolutions team members must help scientists, technicians, and producers demonstrate their wisdom; strengthen cooperation with them for creative activities; create new technology for efficiently mobilizing and utilizing the productive potential of the people's economy with our own resources, materials, and power; and fan the flames of the popular technological innovation movement to apply scientific and technological achievements to production.

The three revolutions team members must vigorously wage the struggle to score great upsurges in production in the coal, electric power, and metallurgical industries, key areas for this year's socialist construction; make bold technological innovations in the light industrial field; operate facilities at full capacity; and greatly increase the production of people's consumer goods.

With an attitude worthy of revolutionary vanguards, they should also take the initiative in the struggle to increase agricultural production greatly and to build more houses in urban and rural areas by meeting the transportation demand of the people's economy and by thoroughly meeting the demand of the chuche farming method.

Success in implementing the three revolutions and in economic construction depends on how the masses' revolutionary enthusiasm and creativity are organized and mobilized.

Party organizations and three revolutions team members should adhere thoroughly to the chuche-based principle of socialist economic management, which was created by our party and whose justness and vitality have clearly been proved in socialist economic construction. They should arouse the masses to struggle and perform feats by firmly giving priority to political work in accordance with the demand of the Chongsan-ri spirit, the Chongsan-ri method, and the Taean work system. Also, they should help functionaries and the working people fulfill their responsibility and roles as masters of economic guidance and management so that they can make it possible to effect continuous upsurges in production and technological development.

Faithfully upholding the party's leadership and more greatly displaying the spirit of self-reliance and fortitude, all three revolutions vanguards should effect a new revolutionary upsurge in all sectors of socialist economic construction, thereby vigorously demonstrating the might of socialism of our own style. They should perform heroic feats in the struggle to adorn this meaningful year with a grand winners' festival.

Thoroughly implementing the party's policy on the cultural revolution is an important task to be implemented by party organizations and three revolutions teams.

Party organizations and three revolutions team members should work effectively to upgrade scientific and technological knowledge and the general cultural level of the working people in plants, enterprises, and cooperative farms. By doing so, they will actively contribute to intellectualizing all of society and to elevating the people's cultural and emotional lives.

The party organizations and the three revolutions team members should also see to it that all the functionaries and working people thoroughly establish a good tradition of an ethos for production, life and that they abide by the socialist rules of life and order with self-awareness. We should also see to it that all functionaries and working people work and live militantly with high revolution-mindedness by firmly establishing the same work ethos, study ethos, and life ethos that the anti-Japanese guerrillas had.

Making functionaries and working people firmly adhere to and thoroughly implement the party line and policy is an important task assigned to the three revolutions teams' struggle to implement the ideological, technological, and cultural revolutions.

The three revolutions teams should thoroughly comprehend the tasks based on party policy assigned to each unit and help and support the unit's operations and organizational work to implement them. They should also vigorously arouse functionaries and working people to implement the party policy absolutely and unconditionally by setting practical examples befitting revolutionary vanguards. Thus, they can fulfill their revolutionary mission as fervent protectors and thorough consummators of the party policy.

The three revolutions teams should be particularly aware of the party's intent to make realization of our people's century-old desire for all the people to eat rice and meat soup, to wear silk clothes, and to live in tile-roofed houses an important goal of socialist construction. They should pay great interest to the demand of the party policy on the people's living and should focus their efforts on implementing the party policy. Upholding the slogan "To serve the people" along with the functionaries at units where they are dispatched, the three revolutions teams should be vanguards in solving problems. They should have the attitude of being masters and should care for the people's living.

The three revolutions teams should also actively participate in strengthening the People's Army, building firmly an all-people defense system, and enhancing the traditional virtue of Army-people unity in order to prepare for the enemies' aggressive provocation maneuvers. They should be buglers and activists who vigorously organize and mobilize the masses' revolutionary enthusiasm and their patriotic spirit of self-sacrifice.

The movement to win the red banner of the three revolutions is a mighty communist mass movement for accelerating the remodeling of the entire society after the chuche idea.

The three revolutions team members must encourage officials and workers in their units to participate in the movement to win the red flag of three revolutions and more vigorously carry out this movement. They must also ensure that the struggle to carry out the three revolutions be waged as the masses' work. In order to deepen the three revolutions team movement and develop it to a new, higher stage, all three revolutions team members must revolutionize themselves even more and imbue themselves with a working-class spirit, endlessly upgrade their scientific and technological quality, and strongly prepare themselves as fighters boundlessly loyal to the socialist cause.

To repay with loyal deeds the great political trust and expectations of the party that raised them as vanguards in the struggle to carry out the three revolutions, the three revolutions team members must cherish the great chuche idea deep in their hearts as a firm belief and more strongly prepare themselves politically, ideologically, and technologically. The three revolutions team members must carry out revolutionary organizational activities, go deep into sites of production and among the producing masses, and learn the strong revolutionary spirit, organizational spirit, strong will, and militant spirit from the workers and peasants. They must possess excellent mental and moral traits as vanguards of the three revolutions, both in name and reality. All three revolutions team members must accept loyalty to the party and the leader as their belief and moral obligation, as well as making it a part of their life, and thus become fortresses and shields that resolutely defend and safeguard the party and the leader politically and ideologically even if they have to risk their lives.

As required by the party's slogan "Let us live our own style," the three revolutions team members must thoroughly implement the principle of chuche and the revolutionary principle of self-reliance and arduous struggle in carrying out work, and strengthen their fidelity to the party's principles and their capability for struggle, carry on studies with a strong will and fervent efforts. In this way, they must become capable creators and propagators of socialist science and technology and culture.

Strongly preparing growing new generations as chuche-type revolutionaries who have high revolutionary spirits and creative capabilities is vital to the destiny of the party and the revolution. The three revolutions teams must pay deep attention to indoctrinating in a revolutionary manner children who our party considers to be valuable and carry out their activities by closely linking it to work for children. In this way, they must vigorously contribute to strongly arming all the children with a chuche-oriented revolutionary outlook on the world and raising them into cultivators and creators of new science and technology and culture.

Persistently adhering to our party's principle on three revolutions team activities is a basic guarantee for deepening and developing the three revolutions team movement in compliance with the party's intention and bringing about greater achievements in carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and culural.

In carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and culural—and implementing all the tasks for carrying out the party's policies, the three revolutions teams must assume an attitude of sincerely helping their assigned units carry out work, always closely consult and take common steps with party organizations, and thus correctly and better carry out the party's policies and vigorously push ahead with the three revolutions. The three revolutions teams must always consider it to be the most important principle to sincerely uphold the party's leadership; firmly establish a revolutionary work system under which all act like one under the party center's leadership; and establish a revolutionary trait with which to unconditionally carry out tasks to the end by displaying high loyalty and the spirit of self-sacrifice.

To more vigorously carry out the three revolutions, the entire party and entire society must help the three revolutions teams carry out their activities. Our party personally commands and guides the three revolutions team movement. The more the three revolutions teams strengthen their activities, the stronger our pparty will be and the more satisfactorily the party's political leadership in revolution and construction will be guaranteed.

All party organizations and officials must have a profound understanding of the importance of the three revolutions in carrying out the socialist cause and the reason the party has sent three revolutions teams as forces to give guidance on the three revolutions, pay greater attention to three revolutions team activities, and provide the three revolutions team members with conditions for their work and activities with a high sense of responsibility.

The party organizations, publications and media, and other pertinent sectors must carry out activities to widely propagate the three revolutions teams' achievements and good experiences in various forms and ways and to pay tribute to the three revolutions teams as revolutionary vanguards and creators of feats. In this way, the flames of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and culural—must be spread more vigorously.

Comrades: Our revolutionary mission is heavy-and vast. However, the prospects for our revolution are boundlessly brilliant and optimistic.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, who has led the popular masses' cause of independence along the single road of victory for almost 70 years after overcoming unprecedented difficulties and trials, is at the vanguard of our revolution. The mature, tested, and ever-victorious Workers Party of Korea, tightly gripping the rudder of the revolution, is leading our people along the single straight road of victory.

The party's trust and expectations are very high for the struggle to adhere persistently to the general line on socialist construction and brilliantly implement it. Our party firmly believes that all three revolutions team members will perform greater feats in carrying out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and culural—and excellently fulfill their noble mission of the era and revolution with honor and pride in being the party's eternal companions, sincere supporters, excellent advisers, and people who enthusiastically defend and thoroughly implement the party's policies. [applause]

All party members and workers and three revolutions team members must cherish deep in their hearts as a firm belief the notion that socialism is our people's life, resolutely crush the antisocialist, antirepublic maneuvers by the imperialists under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, and vigorously carry out the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and culural. In this way, they will further glorify the socialism of our own style and vigorously hasten the cause of national reunification.

The revolutionary cause of our party and people that, under the wise leadership of the party and the leader, is vigorously marching forward under the uplifted banner of the great chuche idea and the uplifted banner of the three revolutions—ideological, technological, and cultural—is ever-victorious and invincible. [applause]

Let us all be strongly united around the party Central Committee led by respected and beloved Comrade Kim Il-song and more vigorously fight for the fatherland's reunification, the victorious march of the socialist cause, and the completion of the chuche revolutionary cause. [applause]

Long live the great leader of our party and our people Comrade Kim Il-song! [applause]

Long live the honorable Workers Party of Korea, the organizer and guide of the victory of the Korean revolution! [applause]

South Korea

NSP Head: Sanctions Sought on DPRK Nuclear Policy

SK1702144093 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 1410 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Answering questions at the Defense Committee of the National Assembly, Yi Hyon-u, director of the Agency for the National Security Planning [NSP], said that if North Korea does not accept the nuclear inspection of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the government will check North Korea from developing nuclear weapons through negotiations with neighboring countries, and using diplomatic and economic sanctions rather than military sanctions.

In connection with the incident of the South Korean Workers Party of Korea, NSP Director Yi Hyon-u revealed that no lawmakers are involved in the incident.

He said that, by employing agents well versed in the fields of trade, economy, and science, and intelligence, he will promote the specialization and science-orientation of the NSP in accordance with the change of the times. He said that the revision of the NSP's role and function should not result in the weakening of the government forces.

After saying that he modestly accepts the people's denunciation and criticism of the wrongdoings and misdemeanors committed by the NSP and some officials in the past, he added that all the NSP officials will make silent efforts to discharge their duty.

Minister on DPRK Nuclear Policy

SK1802110893 Seoul YONHAP in English 1049 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Deputy Prime Minister Choe Yong-chol said Thursday North Korea is trying to earn time to refit their southward strategy taking advantage of the controversial nuclear issue. Pyongyang is also seeking to use the nuclear question in attempting to thwart the 93 Team Spirit exercise and in obtaining concessions in their talks with Japan and the United States, Choe said.

In a policy report submitted to the National Assembly Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, Choe, concurrent national unification minister, said North Korea is in the policy to readjust their strategy against South Korea after the policy guidelines of the new administrations in Seoul and Washington were made known.

Reiterating the government stand that there would be no substantial progress in South-North relations without resolution of the nuclear question, Choe said that if and when the nuclear issue were resolved it would expedite improvement of South-North relations.

"Once there is a significant progress in the effort to resolve the nuclear issue, inter-Korean economic cooperation projects would be switched from a preparatory stage to the phase of implementation," he said.

Choe said North Korea would have no choice but to seek to resolve the nuclear issue in any manner sooner or later. This is all the more so in view of the internal and external conditions facing North Korea and the international pressure brought to bear on the North to remove suspicion about their nuclear arms development, he said.

"I believe the prime ministers talks and other suspended inter-Korean dialogues would resume in the middle of this year, where there could be a markable progress in the discussion of measures to translate agreed matters envisaged in the basic and auxiliary agreements into action," Choe said.

New Administration To Reorganize Unification Board

SK1702123493 Seoul YONHAP in English 1209 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—The upcoming new administration of President Kim Yong-sam intends to create a South-North cooperation committee under the National Unification Board to ensure more effective inter-Korean dialogue and exchange programs, it was learned Wednesday.

An official of the presidential transition committee said that instead the office of South-North dialogue and exchanges and cooperation bureau of the board will be abolished. An idea of the new administration is also to create an economic exchanges bureau at the board with the duty of overseeing substantial inter-Korean economic exchanges, he said.

As to the sharing of North Korea-related programs between the Unification Board and the Agency for National Security Planning, the official said the Unification Board would take overall charge of negotiations with the North and execution of inter-Korean agreements.

And the agency would be given the job of collecting and analyzing external information related to South and North Korea, he said.

'Source': Kim Chong-il To Visit PRC 8 Mar

SK1802102793 Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean 18 Feb 93 p 7

[Text] North Korea's Secretary Kim Chong-il will pay an unofficial visit to the PRC for one week beginning 8 March. He plans to discuss ways to handle North Korea's nuclear issue, which has recently drawn the world's attention, with PRC leaders, including Jiang Zemin, general secretary of the Communist Party of China. SANKEI SHIMBUN reported this on 17 February, quoting a diplomatic source in Seoul.

This is Kim Chong-il's first visit to the PRC since June 1983. He will not visit Beijing this time but will tour the eastern areas, including Dandong, Shenyang, Changchun, and Harbin, to inspect industrial facilities, the daily reports.

Kim Chong-il will have unofficial talks with PRC leaders, including Secretary Jiang Zemin, in Dandong. They are likely to discuss ways to handle North Korea's nuclear issue, SANKEI SIHMBUN reports. The daily says Kim Chong-il's visit to the PRC means that he has begun to play an active role in diplomatic relations.

ROK-U.S. Semiconductor Talks Reviewed

SK1802024593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0156 GMT 18 Feb 93

[By So Hae-song]

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—A decisive punitive tariff on South Korean semiconductor exports became inevitable after governmental talks between Korea and the United States broke down without fruit before the Wednesday deadline for an agreement to halt the U.S. anti-dumping investigation.

With all the lobbying and negotiations from both the business circle and government to avoid a final dumping determination ending in smoke, Korean semiconductor companies suspected of dumping can but pray that the dumping margins are not as high as those set by the preliminary ruling.

The U.S. Commerce Deparment found that 1-mega D-RAM (Dynamic Random Access Memory) chips manufactured by Samsung Electronics Co. were sold at 87.4 percent below cost price in the U.S. market, while imposing a 52.4-percent rate on Goldstar Electron Co., and a 5.99-percent rate on Hyundai Electronics Co. for the same reason at the preliminary determination on Oct. 21 last year.

The three companies now face two major consequences, the final dumping recognition by the Commerce Department on March 15 and a ruling by America's International Trade Commission (ITC) within 45 days thereafter, or by April 29, on whether the dumped products of Korean traders have disrupted domestic industry.

Since the trade discomfort first emerged at the sole complaint by U.S. Micron Technology Co. on April 22 last year, which led to the outrageously high provisional dumping charges, Korean semiconductor companies have sweated blood to present their trading pictures to the U.S. Government, industry sources say.

Because it was believed that Washington made its first ruling entirely based on the suit lodged by Micron, the companies made all-out preparations when officials from the Commerce Department began three-week on-the-spot investigations on their production cost and home sales prices both here and in the United States last November.

Fearing a major drop in trade figures as exports to the United States make up a third of total semiconductor shipments, the Korean Government threw itself in to save the situation by proposing a semiconductor agreement similiar to the pact between Washington and Tokyo.

Assistant Trade and Industry Minister Chae Chae-uk, carrying a letter from Trade and Industry Minister Han Pong-su, and other trade officials flew to Washington with anticipation to cap the issue at an early stage in January. They presented a pact to suspend the anti-dumping charges under a Data Collection Program (DCP), or a free price control arrangement.

With a guarantee to never practice dumping again, the semiconductor exporters also pledge to keep data on their shipment volume and cost and to submit the documents within two weeks at the request of Washington in case of dumping, according to the DCP arrangement.

The measure sought by the government aimed to give its industry the least control by the United States as the semiconductor traders can liberally fix their export prices.

When the U.S. Government and industry showed little response to its proposition, Seoul went further to suggest scrapping all customs on semiconductor imports, encouraging sales of American semiconductor and semiconductor parts at home, and actively cooperating in upgrading bilateral semiconductor industry.

Chae and his delegation again made a trip to Washington last week, this time to display Washington the ill effects on its industry when Korean companies face dumping tariffs such as greater monopoly of Japanese exporters, higher semiconductor prices in the U.S. market, and weakening competitiveness of the American industry.

Although realizing the lucrative proposals for its side, the Commerce Department and U.S. Trade Representative turned down offers from Seoul, excusing themselves under the pretext of too stubborn opposition by Micron.

But government officials here quote Seoul delegates in Washington as saying that the U.S. Government was passive throughout the negotiations, which was the main reason for the breakdown of the talks.

Commerce Secretary Ronald Brown refused to see Chae and turned down a meeting request by Korean Ambassador Hyon Hong-chu regarding the matter.

The new U.S. Administration cold-shouldered Seoul because it cannot help respecting opinions of its industry and Congress, government officials said.

In order to follow through his promise for fair trade, President Bill Clinton has naturally taken up a protectionist policy, and with cries for a reauthorization of the hard compliance trade legislation Super 301 becoming stronger, expectations for a fair deal in the semiconductor talks were wishful thinking, they said.

The Korean Government and industry can pin hopes on lower punitive duties at the final determination because the first ruling on Goldstar and Samsung was made without taking account of their materials.

But industry experts say it is very unlikely that ITC will uphold Korean companies not guilty as it has already ruled that they hurt Amercian industry and any dumping duties higher than 10 percent can devastate the competitiveness of Korean exporters.

ROK Envoy, Tianjin Mayor Sign Industrial Contract

SK1802092093 Seoul YONHAP in English 0733 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Beijing, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—South Korean Ambassador No Chae-won and Tianjin Mayor Nie Bichu signed the contract to build a 1.2-square-kilometer industrial complex for Korean companies Thursday at the Xilaideng Hotel in Tianjin.

The Korean complex in the Tianjin economic and technology development zone will serve as momentum for growing economic cooperation between Korea and China, No told guests from Seoul, Tianjin, and Beijing.

"We expect to see active participation from Korean companies in the complex, helping stregthening economic relations of the two countries," Nie said, also promising full support from his city.

Up to 150 Korean companies are expected join in the complex. A total of 1,500 Chinese companies and 850 businesses from 37 countries, including Samsung Electronics Co. of South Korea, have already moved in.

ROK, PRC Initial Maritime Pact, Agree on MFN

SK1702053393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0308 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea and China initialed a maritime pact here Wednesday agreeing on equal loading, most-favored-nation [MFN] status and annual negotiations.

The 13-article pact came at the end of the second round of maritime talks and allows free port calls by national-flagged vessels and loading of each other's cargo on third-country routes.

China accepted South Korea's demand for equal loading rights it initially refused for a competitive edge from its cheaper labor costs. Seoul toned down its demand for China's national treatment, settling for MFN status instead.

The two countries agreed to meet regularly once a year to check on the implementation of the agreement.

They previously agreed at Tuesday's session to add new car ferry services between Pusan and Shanghai, Sokcho and Hunchun.

Seoul and Beijing established diplomatic relations last Aug. 24.

Steel Company Applies for Joint Venture in PRC

SK1702030593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0101 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—Pohang Iron and Steel Co. (POSCO) has applied to establish a joint-venture factory for tin plate in Shanghai, a company spokesman said Wednesday.

It envisions a 50:50 joint venture valued at 36 million U.S. dollars, with 10 million dollars secured independently and 8 million dollars coming from a government fund to support overseas investment, he said. If approved, it will be the first Korean investment in a communist or former communist country in a basic industry such as steel or cars.

Ground for the steel mill will be broken in April next year for full operation from 1996, starting at 8,500 tons of tin plate and reaching 120,000 tons a year five years after.

The POSCO official said tin plate is used in making cans and China's annual tin plate production is 100,000 tons, or 400,000 tons shy of demand.

All products churned out by the joint-venture mill are expected to be sold in China so no boomerang effect is likely, the official said, noting that Korea can increase its exports of POSCO-produced raw materials for tin plate-making in China.

In a related development, Daewoo Motor Co. recently applied for approval to set up a joint-venture factory for light vehicles in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

Daewoo wants to manufacture 180,000 compact cars annually at the 200 million-dollar plant.

ROK, PRC To Seek Private Environment Exchanges

SK1502075593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0710 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 15 (YONHAP)—China has asked South Korea for money and technology to help protect its environment and is likely to ask for private-level cooperation, a Korean Environment Ministry official said Monday.

The request was delivered by Ye Ruqiu, deputy director of the State Bureau of Environment Protection, when he discussed measures to promote cooperation in the field with a four-member Korean team that visited Beijing Feb. 2-7, he said. Ye asked for financial and technological help in environmental preservation, and emphasized bilateral cooperation, the official said.

Private bodies, including the Environment Protection Corp., expressed hope for private-level exchanges in meetings with the team and explained China's environmental problems. Only 5 percent of China's sewage is treated and it needs technological cooperation with advanced countries.

A state-run company in each Province builds pollution prevention facilities, and the 3,000 private companies are mostly small so they need financial and technological help to deal with China's growing environmental problems. The team suggested that Korea sell small-scale environmental technology to China rather than large facilities such as incinerators.

The Environment Ministry is to encourage private environmental cooperation with China first in the field of air cleaning gadgets, including electric dust collectors, and waste water treatment.

ROK, PRC To Build Underwater Fiber-Optic System

SK1402121293 Seoul MAEIL KYONGHE SINMUN in Korean 13 Feb 93 p 8

[Text] An underwater fiber-optic cable telecommunications system will be built between the ROK and China. This project will start this year and will be completed in 1996.

Pak Yong-il, director of the Communications Policy Council of the ROK Communications Ministry, will visit Beijing on 14 February to conclude the negotiations with the Chinese Communications Ministry to build the underwater fiber optic-cable telecommunications system between the West Sea of the ROK and Shandong Province of China.

To facilitate smooth telecommunications between the ROK and China and make the ROK a telecommunications center in Northeast Asia, the ROK Communications Ministry is planning to form a working-level team with China at an early date to build the underwater fiber-optic cable telecommunications system.

The underwater cable telecommunications system which the two countries will build between the West Sea and Shandong Province of China is 420 km long. The system will be capable of transferring data 560 megabits per second, is composed of approximately 7560 telecommunications lines, and the construction cost will be $40 million.

To make the ROK a telecommunications center in Northeast Asia, the Communications Ministry will invest approximately 200 billion won to build a cable telecommunications system liking the ROK with Russia, another system linking the ROK with China, and the ACPN [expansion unknown] cable system linking the ROK with 10 Asian-Pacific countries.

The ROK and China opened 12 telecommunications lines in 1989, and 89 lines are now operational. The communications between the two countries have significantly increased since the two countries established diplomatic relations. As a result, the two countries are planning to open 310 new lines during the first half of this year.

ROK, PRC Begin Telecom Talks in Beijing 15 Feb

SK1402025693 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 14 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] Working talks on telecommunication issues between South Korea and China open tomorrow for a three-day run in Beijing, China.

According to Pak Yong-il, the communications policy deliberation officer of the Communications Ministry, the highlight of the meeting will be the conclusion of a contract for Korea Telecom's participation in the establishment of a South Korea-China optical fiber network.

A memorandum of understanding to the effect will be signed by Pak and Zhao Xintong, director of the Department of External Affairs of China's Posts and Telecommunications Ministry.

Pak explained that further working-level talks will be held among telecommunications experts from Telecom and the pertinent Chinese authorities to work out the details of the joint venture.

Telecom's counterpart in the massive project will be China's Directorate General of Telecommunications.

In addition to the optical fiber network, South Korea is keen on participating in the modernization of the Chinese telecommunications network, particularly in terms of providing its TDX (time division exchange) switching machines.

Pak said his seven-man delegation will explain prospective long-term measures on how Telecom can help China improve its telecommunications services and facilities.

"We believe that the developments that took place here over the past ten years can be looked at as a model for the enhancement of the Chinese communications systems," Pak elaborated.

He contended that the meeting is an important step in establishing a solid and cooperative relationship with China in the field of telecommunications since the socialist country as a huge market.

The working-level session will also focus on issues to be discussed during an upcoming ministerial meeting including the exchange of related technologies and technical personnel, Pak said.

ROK, PRC Institutes Agree on Academic Exchange

SK1302023993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0121 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 13 (YONHAP)—Hanguk University of Foreign Studies (HUFS) signed an agreement on academic exchange with Beijing Foreign Languages Institute in Beijing on Saturday morning.

HUFS President Yi Kang-hyok and Wang Fuxiang, president of the institute, agreed on exchanges of professors, students and academic materials and mutual recognition of course credits. It is the first time that a South Korean university has signed an agreement with a Chinese university since normalization of ties between the two countries on Aug. 24 last year. HUFS is to sign a similar agreement with Fudan University in Shanghai on Feb. 17.

PRC Refuses 'Comfort Women' Research Team

SK1302055293 Seoul YONHAP in English 0508 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 13 (YONHAP)—China has refused to let a South Korean Government team visit Beijing to gather information on comfort women, apparently because of Japanese sensitivities, officials said Saturday.

The team had hoped to visit China after Japan next week on a 10-day trip to collect documents and testimonies for a second report on Korean comfort girls, a euphemism for the tens of thousands of young women taken to frontline brothels to serve sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II.

The team intended to meet with professors at Beijing University and search for materials that Japan may have left behind when it left China in a hurry toward the end of the war. Japan recruited comfort women from other Asian countries as well, including China.

"But China is reluctant to take a lead in this issue because of recently warming relations with Japan. Beijing's recent denial to allow the Seoul team's visit is apparently from its sensitivity toward Tokyo's reaction," an official said. The fact-finding team will visit Japan only from Feb. 15 for meetings with Foreign Ministry officials there and return Feb. 21.

Church Group To Intervene

SK1302062593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0553 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 13 (YONHAP)—The World Council of Churches (WCC) has decided to take on the cause of Korean comfort women and designated a South Korean representative as its delegate to the U.N. Human Rights Commission meeting next week, the Korean National Council of Churches (KNCC) said Saturday. KNCC officials said they asked the WCC to actively intervene to raise the comfort women issue at the global level, and the WCC agreed.

The WCC named Sin Hye-su, chairwoman of the International Affairs Committee of the Korean Council for Women drafted for sexual service by Japan, as its representative, according to the officials. The U.N. Human Rights Commission meeting opens Monday.

A human rights subcommission heard testimonies at last year's session from Korean women forced to serve sex to Japanese soldiers during World War II, when Korea was under Japanese colonial rule. This will be the first time that an international religious organization has taken up the case at the commission, the KNCC officials said.

ROK To Guarantee Profit on DRAM Exports to EC

SK1502015393 Seoul YONHAP in English 0125 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 15 (YONHAP)—Trade friction between South Korea and the European Community (EC) over EC anti-dumping charges on Korean semiconductor exports eased after Korea agreed to guarantee a 9.5-percent profit on cost, industry sources said Monday.

Under the Korea-EC price undertaking agreement, Korean semiconductor exporters must sell their products at a minimum profit of 9.5 percent on cost in the EC market from March 18 to March 17, 1998.

Samsung Electronics Co., Hyundai Electronics Co. and Goldstar Electron Co. bowed to a profit guarantee early this month and now await formal procedures between the EC Commission to shoulder the price undertaking, which was first decided in principle in July last year, the sources said.

The Korea-EC semiconductor discomfort began after European D-RAM (dynamic random access memory) chips manufacturers filed an anti- dumping suit against Korean exporters in June 1990, who then faced an anti-dumping investigation since March 1991.

With the settlement, Korean semiconductor industry do not need to entrust 10.1-percent securities for exports to EC Commission any more, sources said, adding that Korean companies must now concentrate on cutting cost for price competition with foreign semiconductor exporters on the EC market.

ROK, Tunisia Sign Aviation Agreement

SK1702090593 Seoul YONHAP in English 0541 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 17 (YONHAP)—South Korea and Tunisia have initialed an aviation accord opening regular passenger and cargo services between the two countries, the Foreign Ministry said Wednesday.

The accord, signed in Tunis after two days of talks, grants tax exemptions and allows multiple airlines to fly the routes. The two sides will have to determine landing points and flight schedules in later talks.

Seoul proposed that charter flights be given the same privileges as commercial flights under the aviation accord, and Tunis responded positively, officials said.

Dailies' Reaction To Appointments Noted

SK1802041893 Seoul YONHAP in English 0307 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The nation's news media on Thursday generally welcomed President-elect Kim Yong-sam's appointments for top aides Wednesday and expressed hope that they will man a truly democratic and not authoritarian presidential secretariat. Most newspapers in their editorials positively evaluated Kim's first personnel appointments as president-elect.

"He gave us hope as he brought out relatively able and fresh faces in his first personnel appointments," the HANGUK ILBO said in its editorial. "It is highly unusual, even the opposition party was giving a positive evaluation."

Wednesday's appointments were especially significant, many analysts say, since they show the direction in which Kim will go in the follow-up and more important appointments of his prime minister, chairman of the Board of Audit and Inspection and director of the Agency for National Security Planning next week.

One of the few negative reactions came from the HANGYORE SINMUN. Kim's appointments disappointed most people, it declared, adding that the president-elect betrayed the people's expectations by naming Rep. Kim Yong-su of the Democratic Liberal Party as senior secretary for petition and information. Kim had been an official of the Agency for National Security Planning.

With this minor exception, however, most newspapers agree that Kim Yong-sam's choice of aides reflected the character of his administration, which will be the first civilian government in 32 years.

President-elect Kim had surprised no one with his appointments Wednesday, said the mass-circulation CHOSON ILBO, as he appeared to have followed his often enunciated principle of personnel management.

Although there was no element of surprise, most appointees were fresh, new faces, the newspaper said. They had not served in past administrations or in the military.

Most of the appointees are said to lack administrative expertise, the CHOSON said, but the country could expect fresh new ideas and reform plans from them precisely because they had been outside the establishment and had been critical of the previous administrations. In a way they were admirably suited for the reforms that Kim has been advocating and intends to carry out, the paper said.

Another vernacular newspaper, the KYONGHYANG SINMUN, expressed a similar view in its editorial. It said that relative inexperience in administration was, in a way, unavoidable when one takes into consideration that they were picked to carry out changes.

Despite some criticism, most newspapers said it was apparent that Kim chose as his top aides well qualified experts in their fields. It was also comforting to know that they were those who had been championing or agreeing with the president-elect on the need for political and social reform for the country, they said.

One of the major and noteworthy breaks from the past practice involved the chief of the presidential security service, they said. The post, which had wielded enormous power in past administrations, is to held by a civilian and not by an army general or former general for the first time.

Kim Yong-sam's Governing Principles Examined

SK1402221593 Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean Feb 93 pp 122-35

[Article by Kwon Yong-ki: "I Will Lead the Nation With a Strong Secretariat"]

[Text] His Direct Testimony is Important

Every day information is carried in newspapers or over the airways concerning President-elect Kim Yong-sam's conceptualization of personnel assignments or his reform and governing of the affairs of state. Just how reliable is information that quotes "close aides," "high-ranking party officials," or even "ruling party sources"?

All this information probably contains some of President-elect Kim's actual intentions or a reasonable facsimile. However, there is also a great amount of inaccurate "information" based on statements or comments that have been passed on erroneously. There is also no small amount of "creative reporting," as well as instances where diametrically opposed stories have been carried in two newspapers on the very same day.

It is not easy for the citizens to distinguish between good and bad. Since the presidential election, there has simply been too much talk coming from too many people, each of them claiming to know President-elect Kim Yong-sam's true feelings. This confuses people. Not only is accuracy problematic in statements coming through third parties, but there is a great possibility that those statements may be tainted according to the interests of the person or persons passing on that information. Thus, direct testimony from Kim Yong- sam himself is certainly important. "Talk" or "rumors" based solely on indirect information and not on Kim Yong-sam's statements can only have the trashcan as their ultimate destination.

This being the case, President-elect Kim Yong-sam's spoken words become even more important. Is plan to take legal steps against United People's Party [UPP] Executive Chairman Chong Chu-yong firm? Just what consideration has been given to personnel appoints in the new administration? What about the suspicions among a significant number of people that President-elect Kim may be wavering in his intention to institute reform in the face of opposition from vested interest groups? If his intention to reform is firm, where will that reform begin and how will it proceed? In what direction will reorganization of the governmental structure head? How will Kim organize the Chongwadae Secretariat, and what relationship will be established between Chongwadae and the cabinet? What kind of person will Kim select to be prime minister? In what style does Kim envision a president to run a country? In what direction will North-South relations go?

Talk for One Hour and 30 Minutes

In order to determine President-elect Kim's feelings about these urgent and extraordinarily important national areas of interest, one naturally must depend on direct statements made by Kim. Only a nonfabricated "direct expression of his inner feelings" can give a precise indication of his thoughts and intentions. Even indirect testimony from close aides and others surrounding him can be dependable and serve the function of supplementing other facts only when they are posited upon direct testimony by President-elect Kim.

The number of individuals who have met with President-elect Kim Yong-sam since his election is extremely limited. Even to those who have met him, Kim does not really reveal his thoughts. Rather, it is the old habit of "Kim Yong-sam the politician" and his style of listening more to what others say. It is not even well known with whom President-elect Kim has been meeting since the election.

This reporter was able to talk with President-elect Kim Yong-sam for one and a half hours on 10 January 1993. The reason why the word "talk" [myondam] is used is because this was not really a formal interview with President-elect Kim. The meeting was in response to a request from WOLGAN CHOSON to obtain some basic data for its story "Treatise on the Kim Yong-sam Presidency" that Yonsei University Professor Choe Chong-ho has been asked to write. Nearly all of the questions to President-elect Kim were left to Professor Choe.

As to the nature of the discussion with President-elect Kim, both numerous historical accounts as well as general topics were discussed. Even so, all of the concrete issues that are of such interest to the entire nation—that is, those topics raised in the above questions—were addressed at least once during the talks. One hour and 30 minutes is a long time. Moreover, in no other single instance since his election has President-elect Kim talked about his feelings for such a long time. President-elect Kim's statements provide a sufficient guide for determining the basic direction of how he intends to run the government.

Using President-elect Kim's verbal testimony as a basis, this article sets out to determine his true intentions about running the state by incorporating news coverage of his key close aides as supplementary documentation.

The people who voted for candidate Kim Yong-sam in the recent election are most interested in whether he truly will be able to implement and realize reform. Candidate Kim Yong-sam called for "reform amid stability," and many people voted for him based on this position. However, a great many people also are expressing doubts that reform amid stability is indeed possible. Their suspicions derive from whether Kim Yong-sam, having been elected with the support of vested interest groups that desire stability, can overcome the opposition of those same groups and succeed in his reforms. Some people also share the view that Kim's commitment to reform has already faded.

President-elect Kim said: Stagnant water becomes tainted. If reform is not made, stability will be destroyed. There is absolutely no change in my feeling that stability must be attained through reform, so there is not even the smallest need to worry about this.

Election Makes Everything Quiet

[WOLGAN CHOSON] Even if your commitment to reform is really firm, the fact is that you grabbed political power with the help of vested interest groups. That kind of group intrinsically despises change and desires stability. How will you be able to overcome the opposition of the vested interest groups, and is that even possible for one man to do, even the president?

[Kim Yong-sam] An election has incredible power. Before the election, people of all walks of life were stepping forward and clamoring noisily. Yet did not the election calm everything down? It was the immense strength of the people that made a proper choice, and that strength has been conferred upon the president. Although Mao Zedong stated that power comes from the barrel of a gun, in a democratic system the power of the president is obtained from the citizenry through an election. Because of this, reform depends solely upon the president's commitment. Whether reform is possible depends on whether there is resolution on the part of the president. If a strong president is leading the country on the road to saving the nation in a direction beneficial to the people, then reform is possible. Moreover, I have long endured difficulties, and the people's selection of me as president reflects their love. Now is the time for me to repay the people. Even if there is some opposition to reform measures, the president conducts politics vis-a-vis the people. If necessary, I am prepared to take my appeal directly to the people via television.

These remarks clearly show that Kim is placing more weight on reform than stability. As he conferred certificates of appointment to the members of the presidential transition committee on 4 January 1993, he instructed them: "Although we must boldly pursue necessary reform, make sure that the people are not disturbed." The next day on 5 January during a breakfast meeting with President No Tae-u, Kim said: "I will not undertake sudden and drastic reform." His statements became accepted within the party as meaning a "limited reform theory," and raised suspicions among those people who desire reform that "perhaps Kim's commitment to reform was already fading."

During our meeting, Kim clearly stated his commitment to reform. Considering this fact, the cautious statements he made in public appear to have been the result of his anticipating organized resistance from the vested interest groups who have not hidden their "uneasiness toward reform," as various unconfirmed reform plans have been mushrooming since Kim's election. In other words, Kim concluded that reform could become even more difficult if the current situation continued before the new government even sets sail.

This point is also quite evident in the fact that toward the beginning of 1993 President-elect Kim emphasized to Chong Won-sik, chairman of the presidential transition committee that "I will carry out reform myself." In fact, ever since his election, Kim has been secretly engaged in projects related to reform. One excellent example occurred at the beginning of 1993 when President-elect Kim received the final report from the government reform program research team. This team (see the January 1993 WOLGAN CHOSON article "The Secrets of Kim Yong-sam's Reform Ideas") was activated in June 1992 immediately after Kim was confirmed as a presidential candidate. After receiving the team's report, Kim ordered them to develop an even more concrete and practical plan for reform.

Reform Work Done by Chongwadae

All of President-elect Kim's secretaries say: "Concepts of reform are already in President-elect Kim's head." "All that remains to be decided is when and through what methods these reforms will be implemented."

President-elect Kim answers the question regarding his decision on reform: "There is no stability without reform. Only through reform can stability be attained." Kim also made one very important, suggestive statement concerning what methods will be used to institute reform.

Kim said: "I read many books during the extended holidays. The newspaper reported that I read the book 'Chongkwan Chongyo' (written by O Kung recording the beautiful words and good deeds of the Tang Dynasty's T'ai Tsung), but I also read a few additional works. I read the book 'A President Who Succeeded, A President Who Failed,' by young Dr. Kim Chung-nam of the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security. Of course, I had read both of those books before. However, reading them again after being elected president, I have a completely different appreciation for them. I believe this is because now I have the responsibility to directly carry out affairs of state.

"The presidential system was first begun in the United States. According to Dr. Kim's book, those presidents who have succeeded include Roosevelt, Kennedy, and Reagan, while Carter is listed as one who failed. What is most important is that under a presidential system, the secretariat takes control over and leads all affairs of state. If a secretariat is leading all affairs of state, this ultimately means that the president himself is leading."

President-elect Kim added the above statement spontaneously after saying "there must be reform." If by chance he had made this statement after having been asked, "What books have you read recently?" then the significance of this answer might be a little different. Yet the fact that he made this remark of his own volition after mentioning "reform" can be seen as a direct indication of his future reform measures and the method with which he will operate affairs of state. Kim brought up Dr. Kim Chung-nam's book when talking about the term "reform," and quoted Dr. Kim's passage stating: "Affairs of state must be seized and led by the secretariat, and it is the president who must ensure that this is done."

President-elect Kim made clear his intention not to entrust reform measures to either the administration or to the party, but rather to implement them himself. When seen in this light, current work in the party's policy committee on selecting major tasks to fulfill election promises is not an indication that Kim intends to entrust reform measures to the party across the board, but rather may be seen as merely a process of having reform issues deliberated by the party prior to his inauguration. That the presidential transition committee, as its name suggests, is concentrating solely on procedures for transferring the governmental organization and on preparations for the inauguration allows one to surmise just where President-elect Kim's true intentions lie.

One individual deeply involved in work concerning "President Kim Yong-sam's reform ideas following his inauguration" said: "All of the reform issues have been prepared. All that remains is work toward realizing these plans. If reform is undertaken while openly swarming and clamoring about, it will fail. In any society, those who desire reform are greatly outnumbered by those opposing reform. In particular, the political world is a weak force in the face of lobbying by interest groups."

"Several negative results emerged when Kim Yong-sam said immediately after his election that he would lead reform. One typical example of this was the Committee for a New Korea. The initial concept of the Committee for a New Korea was to assemble a group of professors to advise candidate Kim Yong-sam. However, reform is not a topic to be pursued by forming an open committee. Moreover, with examination and discussion of the reform program finished, attempting to start all over in the less than two months remaining before the election was extremely ill-advised. President-elect Kim originally was going to leave them alone, but when opposition grew serious within the party as well, I believe Kim began to ignore the committee as though it had never existed."

One close advisor to President-elect Kim Yong-sam stated: "Reform work is currently at the stage of preparation waiting to be implemented. Those who will take charge at the working level are now being chosen." Some newspapers have reported that a "special organ for reform" will be created as a separate organization directly subordinate to Chongwadae. However, considering what President-elect Kim Yong-sam has said here, it becomes clear that the president himself will lead reform work, and those who manage the working-level reform work will be placed near him.

Prime Minister More a Man of High Moral Repute Than Working-Level Official

That President-elect Kim Yong-sam also said "I will strengthen the Chongwadae Secretariat and have Chongwadae manage affairs itself" can also be seen as an indication, if only partial, of his direction when selecting the prime minister, chief presidential secretary, and director of the Agency for National Security Planning [NSP]. The authority of the chief presidential secretary will be stronger than before, with the tacit implication that the chief secretary will be selected as a working-level individual capable of ascertaining the president's inner thoughts and meticulously putting them in order. Naturally, the cabinet will probably become one that faithfully carries out Chongwadae's decisions. The following statement of a close aide of President-elect Kim who meets with him every day concerning the selection of a prime minister is consistent with President-elect Kim's comments on the status of Chongwadae.

"There is much debate within political circles whether the selection of a prime minister will focus on finding a man with working-level abilities or one of high moral repute, with more weight being given to those who suspect that it will be a working-level figure. However, President-elect Kim's intentions lead more towards picking a man renowned for his virtues than for his working-level abilities. Kim prefers such a man both with the intent of aiming at national harmony as well as to highlight the significance of the launching of a new government."

If the Presidential Secretariat's authority is strengthened and Chongwadae comes to exercise more decision-making powers in major state policy, then naturally one can conclude that there would not be a need for a prime minister with a solid working-level background to take responsibility for the cabinet. This too coincides with statements that the prime minister would be chosen based upon his high moral repute.

President-elect Kim Yong-sam, however, made no further concrete comments regarding personnel selections. He merely stated the following:

"I feel a heavy historical responsibility. The number one issue confronting me recently is personnel selections, and nobody knows the agony I have been in over this. Each day I give thought to this issue as the time draws nearer... There are so many people, and so many talented people at that, yet it is very difficult to decide. It appears as though recently there is much talk going around, some where people even list names directly. None of these comments, however, bear any relation to my real intentions. Although I ask for other people's opinions, I never discuss my own opinion. I never discuss what is inside of me. Moreover, I have yet to finish putting my thoughts together on this, and I am not even finished thinking about this. Thus how could anyone else know?

Looking at the Mess After the Election

Just how far will the investigation of election law violations and secret funds of the UPP and Hyundai Group that has been brewing recently continue? The focus of attention has been whether or not legal actions would be taken against UPP Executive Chairman Chong Chu-yong. Since this is so clearly a violation of the law, the only question that remains as far as taking legal actions against Chong Chu-yong, assuming that Chong will be dealt with according to the law, concerns the timing of such actions. There is only one route that would save Chong: to ask for political leniency. This, more than anything else, depends on President-elect Kim Yong-sam's intentions concerning this matter.

President-elect Kim Yong-sam stated the following when asked the question, "Please state what the secret was to getting elected."

The decision of the voters who were not awestruck by money was outstanding. If some strange person had become president, then the nation would have collapsed. Just look at the mess that is going on now after the election... People are hanging their heads in shame over whom they voted for in the election, and are unable even to admit for whom they voted."

—Looking at the fact that the radical demagogue politician (here referring not to Chong Chu-yong but rather to the candidate of the masses claiming to represent the dissident arena) only received one percent of the vote, even our young people and college students were rather rational.

"All the people who ran against me publicly and continuously attacked and slandered me while I, personally, completely avoided making personal attacks. Although there was just one instance where I did make a comment, I did not give anyone's personal name. Our country's election culture now reflects a great degree of maturation by the people during this election."

As seen above, as soon as President-elect Kim began to discuss the election, he referred to the Chong Chu-yong issue without even being asked. This implies that Kim has already finished formulating a solid position concerning Chong Chu-yong.

Legally Dealing With Chong Chu-yong Within the Realm of National Harmony

When asked about future ruling-opposition party relations, Kim stated, "The opposition party is currently in disarray. I hope that they quickly get themselves in order and develop into a healthy opposition party." Even so, Kim had a negative opinion concerning the UPP.

When asked, "Do you regard the UPP as a political counterpart?" Kim replied with a wave of his hand, "My goodness, with such internal difficulties..." The nuance implicit here with Kim's expression is that he will most likely not deal with the UPP as an opposition party nor will he regard them as a political counterpart. When this reporter later asked the follow-up question, "Do you have any intention of coming to a political compromise with UPP Executive Chairman Chong Chu-yong?" President-elect Kim revealed the following in a rather excited manner of speech:

"There were some reports that went out yesterday on 9 January 1993, and there was also something to the effect that there would be reconciliation when I watched the Munhwa Broadcast Company [MBC] Evening News two nights ago. The following morning, I called one of my secretaries and instructed him to make a statement saying that reconciliation with Chong was impossible both from an angle of righteousness as well as from one of national harmony. Only through a righteous decision is national harmony possible. Secret funds are absolutely intolerable and amount to embezzlement and misappropriation. Saying that the Bank of Korea issued 300 billion won worth of bank notes and gave them to me is not a private issue concerning only the Bank of Korea governor. Retracting the lawsuit just based solely on the statement that it was a mistake also is beneath common sense. Fortunately, our party at the time of the election also sued for defamation of character. That a political leader would make such an outrageous lie... Just think of how disjointed state affairs would be. This is something that morally or legally simply cannot be overlooked."

President-elect Kim is known to have gotten extremely angry when Bank of Korea Governor Cho Sun withdrew his lawsuit against Chong Chu-yong concerning the rumor of the issuance of bank notes totalling 300 billion won. One aide who met President-elect Kim that day said, "Kim was extremely furious," adding, "for a person who normally does not curse, he certainly was using some vulgar language."

Legal Actions Within the Context of Establishing State Discipline

It appears as though President-elect Kim Yong-sam concluded that the issue of dealing with UPP Executive Chairman Chong Chu-yong could not simply end there. In using language such as "righteousness and national harmony" and "morally or legally," Kim's thoughts on the matter can easily be read. However, the fact that dealing with Chong Chu-yong is directly linked with reform measures to be undertaken by the Kim Yong-sam Government is a conclusion this reporter arrived at after investigating several different channels.

First, one close aide who meets with President-elect Kim every morning stated, "The handling of Chong Chu-yong is related to the issue of the chaebols, which itself is one of the core items of the Kim Yong-sam Government's economic policies. If Chong Chu-yong ends up unable to sever his connections with the Hyundai Group, then it will be impossible to properly handle the chaebols in the future."

Dealing with Chong Chu-yong does not stop simply with chaebol policy. One individual who is deeply involved with "Kim Yong-sam's reform plan" revealed, "The objectives of governing during the first half of the Kim Yong-sam Government that are the focus of study right now are to (1) reform the operations of government; (2) establish social discipline; and (3) strengthen the state of the economy." Going one step further, another key aide directly charged with the reform plan stated the following:

"What must take top priority above all else is the firm establishment of social order at a pan-national level. Our society currently is based upon a generally corrupt structure. What has made our social discipline so lax and corrupt is the fact that money dictates everything in our society. And the place where that money is flowing out from is the chaebols. President-elect Kim, who has spent nearly 40 years within the opposition party, has a good grasp of this structure and knows precisely where the problem lies. His use of the expression, 'attempting to buy power with money' is directly related to this understanding. Thus dealing with Chong Chu-yong is a priority issue directly linked to the governing of the state, with an aim at firmly establishing state discipline. President-elect Kim is well aware that if the Chong Chu-yong issue is not properly dealt with, it will be difficult to establish state discipline. If that should happen, even reform itself will become difficult. Because of this awareness, Kim became so angry when the Bank of Korea dropped its lawsuit.

"There are indeed, we believe, some positive aspects to the fact that Chong Chu-yong has caused so many problems. Chong has naturally provided us an opportunity to establish discipline early on in the administration. Once the Chong Chu-yong issue has been dealt with, this will have an effect on other people as well as far as the establishment of discipline goes."

President-elect Kim Yong-sam is making the eradication of corruption his top priority within his current reform plan with the idea of establishing social discipline. As one way of implementing this plan, Kim plans to begin with discipline among public officials through an administrative reform package that includes an overhaul of government offices and epochal improvement of treatment of public officials. Kim's view is that without eliminating corruption, he will not be able to succeed in his second task, economic recovery. After reviving the economy is political reform.

Illegality and Corruption Definitely Must be Eradicated

One key aide to Kim stated, "Once reform begins in full, it will proceed at a frightening pace. President-elect Kim is well aware of the fact that lingering leads to failure. For example, there is already a social consensus formed on the need to implement the real-name finance system. If this is not subsequently implemented immediately, it is certain to wind up in failure. There are people out there who insist that even a Kim Yong-sam government must wait for the conditions to mature before moving on issues such as this; however, this is an erroneous observation. If Kim is to properly deal with the chaebols and revive the economy, his first priority simply has to be implementation of the real name financial system." One can see just how accurate the analyses of aides like the one quoted above are in the answer President-elect Kim gave to the question asking him how he would like the Kim Yong-sam era to be judged.

"Providing hope, a future, and dreams is most important. I will implant within the people a feeling of being proud to have been born in Korea during this era."

—As the Sixth Republic passes, it appears as though the people are losing their confidence.

"Reviving our economy and eliminating illegalities and corruption are the important things."

—None of the previous presidents—Yi Sung-man, Pak Chong-hui, Chon Tu-hwan, nor No Tae-u—have been able to eradicate it.

"I will place great emphasis on eliminating illegalities and corruption, for as much as they are the greatest causes of Korean disease, I will get control of them using whatever means are necessary."

President-elect Kim's vocabulary is not that large, and he has a unique way of expressing himself that virtually avoids using any extreme terminology whatsoever. Considering this fact, it would be wise to interpret the expressions he used with emphasis in his voice like "important things," "great emphasis," and "using whatever means are necessary" as indicators of the extraordinary amount of emphasis he intends to place here. These were the types of expressions President-elect Kim used during his one-and-a-half hour talk whenever issues related to reform or how to deal with Chong Chu-yong were brought up.

Time to Seriously Prepare for Unification

After emphasizing his determination to eradicate illegalities and corruption, President-elect Kim also expounded his basic plan for North-South unification.

"Another issue is North-South unification. Whether we like it or not, now is the time for the people to think seriously about unification and make preparations. Looking at Kim Il-song's New Year's Address, every year it is about the same length. This year's, however, was some 12 minutes shorter than last year's. In the past, emphasis has either been placed on the rice bowl or on economic issues. This time there was no mention of such things. Fierce attacks on South Korea also disappeared in this year's address, even after having cursed me so much during the election campaign. He also used expressions rather appeasing towards the United States and Japan as well. Judging from all these things, it appears that North Korea is now encountering a difficult period economically more than it has ever faced in the past. I feel that this is a stage where we must seriously prepare for the North-South issue."

When the example of West and East Germany was raised where, during negotiations, political prisoners in detention in East Germany were bartered in exchanged for West Germany providing economic cooperation, Kim noted that the time has come to once again reconsider the existing northern policy.

"Our mistake in the past has been to proceed with North-South talks with a summit meeting as the preeminent objective. Frankly speaking, I have raised this point several times in the past, yet... the North-South issue must be dealt with boldly and openly. There is no need to sacrifice anything just for the sake of a summit meeting. I feel that a summit meeting will naturally come about during my term of office."

Kim noted that even without us being hasty, given the degree of difficulties North Korea's economy is facing, North Korea will be the first to put out their hand, and that North Korean human rights issues that our government has neglected in the past will also be addressed. Kim stated, "I will concentrate both on human rights in North Korea as well as those people detained in North Korea such as North and South Korean fishermen."

Piecing together all of these comments made by President-elect Kim, it naturally emerges that the three major goals of the Kim Yong-sam Government will be economic reconstruction, eradication of illegalities and corruption, and preparation for unification.

Denounce Ostentation and Show Consideration to the Alienated Class

President-elect Kim Yong-sam also made many other comments in addition to these. In particular, he stated the following concerning preparations for his inauguration ceremony:

"Since there were so many erroneous perceptions on the part of some to the effect that the day of the inauguration would be a public holiday, that there would be a motorcade, and so forth, I called a person from my spokesman's office and instructed him to make a clear announcement to the outside world. We must get back on our feet and running. We must revive the economy. We must think in those terms. Compared to the 19 days annually that we have off, Japan has 11. It appears as though this idea of making inauguration day a national holiday was a logical extension of the fact that in the past, inauguration days had been made public holidays. However, there is absolutely no such need to do it this time. As far as the motorcade goes, they have been held in the past on occasions such as the triumphant return of soccer teams. Even at U.S. President Clinton's upcoming inaugural ceremony there is a plan for him to deliver a speech in front of the Capitol and then proceed by motorcade to the White House, walking at times while shaking hands. It seems that these are the reasons why some have thought that there would be a motorcade, and actually by appearance such an idea would not be so bad. However, I believe that a motorcade for us would not give off that good an impression.

"In the past, only a select group of people have been invited to the inauguration. This time, however, we will invite around 2,000 to 3,000 students. It is, after all, this group that will play the leading role in the twenty-first century. Those from the alienated class will also be invited and seated up front. Workers, farmers, children who serve as heads of households, aged people who have nowhere to turn for help, and the people who take care of the aforementioned will all be invited. In the past, somewhere around 25,000 have been invited to the inauguration. This time, because of the large number of students and alienated who will be invited, the total will be around 30,000. However, unlike in the past, we will not pay the bill and invite either foreign delegations or overseas Koreans. If one president from Africa comes, what big difference will it make?"

When asked whether he had any intention to invite families of victims of the Kwangju Democratization Movement, Kim clearly showed a favorable response by saying "certainly." The preparations that President-elect Kim is making for the inauguration ceremony and the related comments certainly imply several different meanings. Going one step beyond simply asking how the inauguration ceremony is going to be conducted, it provides a message that makes possible conjecture on just how Kim plans on running the affairs of state, the direction he will be headed in, and what principles he will base his administration on.

First, statements such as "I will not designate inauguration day as a national holiday," and "the ceremony will be frugal, with nothing such as a motorcade being held" may be interpreted as reflecting Kim's intention to reject formalities, ostentation, and waste to the greatest degree possible in running government operations. In particular, raising the issue of public holidays and comparing us with Japan may be seen as Kim transmitting his feelings that he is well aware of our economic difficulties and cognizant that "we must run together." This is an elaboration on his statement made during his first press conference after being elected president: "Creating a new Korea demands the blood, sweat, and tears of the Korean people."

Second, Kim mentioned that he would give special consideration and attention to the alienated class. He made it explicitly clear that he would embrace not only the alienated class but those forces outside of the establishment as represented by the students. He statement, "Students will play the leading role in the twenty-first century," can be read in several ways.

Third, by stating, "We will not pay the bill and invite foreign delegations" shows not only that President-elect Kim will reduce government operating wastes, but also hints at his diplomatic style in the future. It is more appropriate to interpret Kim's expression, "If one president from Africa comes...," as a statement indicating that Kim will pursue a foreign policy aiming at tangible utility, rather than just as a statement relating to the inauguration ceremony alone.

Designation of the Korean Disease and the Influence of Thatcher

President-elect Kim made it very clear that in designating the current reality of Korea today as "Korean disease," the influence of former Prime Minister Thatcher of Great Britain was great. Stating that he learned many points from Thatcher, Kim added, "She is not a simple politician."

"I met Thatcher on two occasions. The first was in the mid 1980s when, although my house arrest had been lifted, I was still under surveillance. At that time in my life, whenever I had a meal, some agency was following me to see who I was eating with and who paid the bill. The first invitation I had after house arrest was lifted was from the British Consulate. It was the British Embassy inviting me on the occasion of Prime Minister Thatcher's visit to Korea. There were only a few people invited. When I met Thatcher, it was clear that even though she appeared common, she was not a simple person. When I used the word Korean disease, it was with Thatcher in mind. The second time I met her was during her 1992 visit to Korea, when we had dinner together. Kim Tae-chung and Chong Chu-yong were also there, but she spoke primarily with me. What impressed me during our conversation was when Thatcher asked, 'Are there television debates among the candidates in Korea too?' I responded that although it was not required by law, we were contemplating holding some, to which she said that it would not be a good idea. 'There is absolutely no way there can be debates in Britain. Candidates can make mass speeches, and they are provided with all the opportunities that they desire to make speeches on television. Yet in television debates, one person can utilize the other person's mistakes to influence the decisions of the people. This is extremely wrong. The United States is very wrong in holding such debates. It is not right to, in a short period of time, lead your opponent to commit a mistake and cause the people to make their decision based on that mistake. It would be good for you, Executive Chairman Kim, to reconsider this as well.' She certainly was not a simple person."

Reason for the Three-Party Merger

While discussing what was the most difficult period in his political life, President-elect Kim Yong-sam willingly shared a considerable amount of time on what has happened since the three-party merger. In doing so, Kim revealed that he had acquired an "Operations Plan to Remove Kim Yong-sam" put out by the NSP, who had "researched means by which to cripple him after the merger."

"Although there have been many difficult periods, certainly my opposition party era was difficult and painful. It is regrettable... The YH incident, the time I was stripped of my political position as president of the party, and the time I lost my national assembly position. [sentence as published] All of this in a word, should I say, was infuriating. I just could not accept these incidents, and I cannot say in words just how painful they were. Then there was the acetic acid terrorist incident [20 June 1969 attempted assassination of Kim by three assailants]. And of course my house was subjected to search several times. They took my diary and photographs away. Until that point, I had written in my diary every day; afterwards, however, I stopped keeping a diary, since writing one was equivalent to telling the authorities everything as is. I did vent my anger one time towards the combat riot police when I was under forced house arrest in 1980 and my house was blockaded. Quite honestly, however, I still cannot hold back my anger. Eventually I made the six-item proclamation to the people and entered a hunger strike, at which time I was forcefully moved to Seoul National University Hospital. There, they would place savory food outside my room, a most villainous and unscrupulous act."—Did you think that you could one day merge parties with such villainous and unscrupulous forces?

"It is impossible for me to really explain this to the people. At the time of the merger, I came to the conclusion that should things continue on as they were, the constitution would be suspended and a state of anarchy would arise. If I can give you just one example, our party, which in the 1987 election had come in second, was occupied by 700 workers. When I saw this, I was greatly shocked (he appears to be referring to the teachers of the National Council of Teachers Unions). The police, at a loss for what to do, stood by and looked on idly. These people's demands were first, to meet with me, and second, for me to ensure that the three basic labor rights were guaranteed.

"Party officials were unable to enter the building since it was occupied. Thus, I thought it would be good to meet with them once, give them an adequate chance to speak, and then send them on their way. People said that I was doing wrong. When the situation continued, a few days later I told them that I would meet them with certain provisions: that the group be limited to 10 people and under, that the time be limited to one hour, and that they would have to withdraw from the building by the end of the day that I met them. I told them to come to my party president's office at the National Assembly Building, and nine individuals came over at 1600. I made it quite clear: I cannot guarantee the three labor rights. Our party's proposal guarantees two of those rights, and if you want to, you can occupy our party headquarters for all eternity. Now that I have met with you, leave our party headquarters. As soon as I said that, the one hour that I had promised them had passed, and I arose. They requested just a little more time, so I gave them 20 more minutes. I told them that they misjudged me: I am a person who was unable to go to even my son's wedding because I was confined to my own house. I am a person who, when offered all types of conveniences by the authorities should I agree to go to the United States, held on firmly and refused. Do you actually think that I would listen to you who, while espousing democracy, occupy our party headquarters? Now even the 20 minutes I have promised you have passed, so get out. This is what I said to them."

I Won Because of My Strength

— What type of difficulties did you encounter within the party that you formed with the powers that had oppressed you?

"Difficulties beyond description. I was surveilled. There also was the big problem arising after I came into acquisition of the documented NSP operations plan. At the time, they had intended to merge the parties and then kill me off."

—If you had not received the presidential nomination, you may have become the sacrificial lamb for President No's strategy to free himself from the small ruling party, large opposition party situation... It appears as though Party President Kim's great political power allowed for obtaining the presidential nomination even as a minority faction member.

"Quite frankly that is correct, although I myself cannot admit it. I could go on about this forever and never finish, so I think it would be best not to talk about this any further. In a word, after the merger of the parties they investigated ways of making me a complete cripple. If I had not been strong, and if I had been unable to receive the support of the people, I absolutely would never have been able to pull it off. They were not simple forces."

Here, more than simply providing the untold tale behind the three-party merger, we see here the frightening side of President- elect Kim Yong-sam. The reason why Kim's comments were not edited but instead quoted in full was because there are many portions that allow for speculation as to just what style he will use in running state affairs. Good examples include the passages where Kim told the workers who occupied the party headquarters "you have misjudged me" during their talks, as well as his revelation that "after the merger of the parties, they investigated ways of making me a complete cripple."

President-elect Kim also talked about many things that allows one to get a glimpse at his human side and mindset. The following is an example:

"Among the politicians who have left an impression on me are Churchill, Nehru, Gandhi, and Kennedy. Among Koreans, although they never took power, were great people such as Haegong [penname] Sin Ik-hui [President Yi Sung-man's main opponent in the 1956 presidential election] and Yu Sok [penname] Cho Pyong-ok [Yi Sung-man's main opponent in the 1960 presidential election]. Whenever I think of these two, it reaffirms the fact that for a politician, one's health is of eminent importance. If either of these two had been healthy, then there already would have been a change of regimes. Even Bush's collapse at the dinner in Tokyo was a decisive factor in his election defeat. At the time, Bush's support rating was around 61 percent.

"The books that I read when I was facing difficulties have left the greatest impression on me. When I was under house arrest, I read Nehru's book "Wanderings of World History" or something like that which Nehru had written for his daughter. For some reason that book left some strange impression on me.

"Among my former teachers, I especially respected Pak Chong-hong. Every year I went to bow before him on New Year's Day. After he went to work as a special advisor to Chongwadae, I stopped going."

Reform Possible Because of People's Support

During President-elect Kim's one-and-a-half-hour discussion, he revealed his dedication to reform. He emphasized several times the fact that the driving force behind pursuing reform lay with the people. It would be good to read the following passage several times and appreciate it within such a context.

"Just looking at one objective public opinion poll taken by the Central Election Management Committee, 96 percent of the respondents said that they must obey and accept the results of the presidential election. This is the first time in history such results were obtained, and it will likely be difficult to obtain such results again in the future. This attests to the degree to which the people are depending on me.

"While only 14 percent of the people said that they voted for their candidate based on political party, some 55 percent said that they cast their vote based on the person, while around 33 percent said that they voted based on policies or campaign promises.

"Elections are great and mighty. The people gave me the power, I did not take it myself.

"Thus the significance of the Kim Yong-sam era lies in the great victory of the people. A great and mighty people chose me.

"Since I have the power, the vested interest forces will not be a problem.

Two More Lawmakers Quit UPP; Only 24 Left

SK1802091993 Seoul YONHAP in English 0649 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—Rep. Chong Chang-hyon and Choe Yong-han left the United People's Party [UPP] Thursday, dropping the UPP to within five seats of losing its status as a parliamentary negotiating body.

The national constituency lawmakers told a news conference that after party founder Chong Chu-yong left they pondered the matter and decided to quit because of the continuous conflict within the party.

The UPP now has 24 National Assembly seats, and 20 are required to remain a negotiation body.

The limit is in danger of being breached very soon.

Rep. Kim Tu-sop has said that he will leave on Friday, and Reps. Kim Hyo-yong, Pyon Chong-il, Kim Hae-sok, Song Kwang-ho, Cho Sun-hwan and Yi Kun-yong have expressed their intent to depart.

Assembly Questions Ministers on Government Policy

SK1802092493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0750 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 18 (YONHAP)—The National Assembly grilled lame-duck cabinet ministers Thursday on administration measures aimed at preventing university entrance exam scandals and issues related to North Korea's refusal to allow outside inspections of its nuclear facilities.

In another development, President No Tae-u received 14 foreign ambassadors to Seoul, including Donald Gregg of the United States, at Chongwadae on Friday morning to bid them farewell.

Moving the arena of discussions to the 17 standing committees, lawmakers also took issue with the government of outgoing President No on measures for stabilizing consumer prices, plans for reorganization of government agencies and possible biased investigation of presidential election violators.

At the Administration Committee, members were to discuss the Democratic Liberal Party's plans to eliminate the Ministries of Sports and Youth and of Energy and Resources.

But the discussion bogged down when the opposition Democratic Party counter-proposed a plan for the abolition of the Information Ministry, scaling down of the Agency for National Security Planning and elimination of the posts of chairmen at government-invested corporations.

Over at the Foreign Affairs and Unification Committee, opposition lawmakers urged the government to try and solve problems involving a North Korean objection to inspections of its nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Earlier, Prime Minister Hyon Sung-chong presided over the last cabinet meeting Thursday morning and expressed his satisfaction for a job well done in the Dec. 18 presidential election, for which No formed the neutral cabinet.

Hyon thanked members of his cabinet and asked them to carry out their duty to the last moment, which is exactly a week away.

Pak Kwan-yong, who was appointed chief presidential secretary by President-elect Kim Yong-sam on Wednesday, reported to work at Democratic Liberal Party headquarters for the last time Thursday and took over the job of Choe Chang-yun, chief secretary to the party president.

Yi Ki-taek, chairman of the Democratic Party, wished Pak well, noting that Pak had been his assistant for a long time.

"Although we parted political ways in midstream, I always feel close to him personally," Yi said.

With regard to the party national convention, which is only 20 days away, Yi said that candidates for chairman and members of the Executive Supreme Council should not overheat their campaigns for election.

Following the retirement of Kim Tae-chung, the people expected a strong opposition party that could be a check and balance to the strong government of Kim Yong-sam, Yi said.

Yi and other expected candidates for the party's chairmanship, including Reps. Kim Sang-hyon and Chong Tae-chol, are expected to give news conferences to officially announce their candidacies Friday, the day the party will post the notice of its national convention.

At the unraveling United People's Party, Reps. Chong Chang-hyon and Choe Yong-han left the party Thursday, advancing the party one step closer to disintegration.

Speculation abounds, meanwhile, over the appointment by Kim Yong-sam of Chon Pyong-min as senior presidential secretary for policy. As an auditor with the Korean Policy Research Institute, Chon was least-expected to hold the influential post.

Chon, however, was well known in Kim's inner circle as he led "Impact Korea," Kim's private organization that managed the publicity side of his presidential campaign.

According to sources, Chon is sort of a loner whose academic and other backgrounds are not well known. They said that his appointment surprised many people as they "underestimated" him when Chon was featured in the press in recent weeks.

Government Maps Out Workforce Management Plan

SK1502021693 Seoul YONHAP in English 0156 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 15 (YONHAP)—The Economic Planning Board and the Labor Affairs Ministry have drawn up a workforce management plan that seeks balanced manpower distribution and industrial restructuring.

It contains measures for people fired in the restructuring to find new jobs by strengthening job training.

To reduce manpower shortages on production lines, it increases job training and allows high school graduates to perform their military service by working three instead of five years in industry.

The government will take full advantage of potential workers, including the aged and housewives, and check concentration of workers in the service industry by narrowing pay gaps among occupations.

The economically-active population is expected to account for 61.2 percent of the population aged 15 or above this year, up 0.3 percentage points from last year as the economy is recovering slowly, according to government projections.

Joblessness is expected to grow 11.7 percent to 517,000 people this year with the unemployment rate edging up 0.2 percentage points to 2.6 percent, the highest since 1987 when it was 3.1 percent.

Workers in agriculture, forestry and fisheries are anticipated to drop 4 percent to 2.91 million and those in mining and manufacturing to fall 1 percent to 4.76 million.

Employees in construction and service industries are expected to increase 7.6 percent and 4.2 percent to 1.78 million and 9.81 million, respectively, this year.

Defense Command To Stop Civilian Surveillance

SK1702124593 Seoul HANGYORE SINMUN in Korean 17 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] It was learned on 16 February that, with the coming of the new government as an occasion, the Defense Security Command's [DSC] role of gathering civilian intelligence will be abolished.

The presidential transition committee and military leaders held meetings several times last month, reaching an agreement to abolish the DSC's role of civilian surveillance activity.

A government official said: The presidential transition committee and military leaders negotiated the issue of revising the DSC's roles and functions. The presidential transition committee and military leaders agreed at their negotiations to abolish the DSC's role of civilian surveillance, which has been a knotty issue.

The government official noted: Since the Private Yun Sok-yang [DSC deserter who exposed to the public that the command conducted civilian surveillance] incident took place, the DSC's role of gathering civilian intelligence has been restricted to some extent. DSC agents, however, still continue their general activities of gathering civilian intelligence in each field of major institutions and organizations. Such a role will be abolished, thus the DSC will play the major role of gathering intelligence in the military fields.

Accordingly, it is learned that the DSC will revise all work of its agents in charge of public institutions and organizations, including the central administration ministries and departments, and that it will also revise the role of local agents in charge of each district.

5 Percent Growth Rate 'Norm' Now for Economy

SK1302044693 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 13 Feb 93 pp 1, 10

[By staff reporter Choe Nam-hyon]

[Text] The halcyon days of high economic growth appears to be over, and economists warn that Korea must learn to live with a 5 percent or lower annual increase in the gross national product.

The new experience with sluggish growth will be painful for Korea, which has through both sweat and clever imitation of successful neighbors transformed itself from one of the world's poorest nations into an industrialized miracle in a relatively short three decades.

Korea saw its economic expansion rate range from 6.4 percent to 13.2 percent during the period from 1973 to 1991. One notable exception was 1980 when political turmoil depressed the GNP 3.7 percent.

Now all of a sudden, things have changed. Growth was estimated to have tumbled below 5 percent last year, and many experts agree that this trend is not an aberration but a norm with which Korea will have to live.

Chang Sung-u, director general for economic planning at the Economic Planning Board, says that from now on it will be very hard to maintain past growth rates ranging from 8 percent to 9 percent without incurring dangerously high rates of inflation.

Many of the factors which supported high growth in the past, such as abundant labor, cheap technology and policy loans, have now disappeared, Yi Chin-sun, economics professor at Sungsil University, says.

Twenty years ago, the rural population was a rich source of cheap labor for an economy controlled by the central government, Prof. Yi says.

But that wellspring of the work force has almost been drained: the farm population of 11,527,000 in 1978 was nearly halved to 6,068,000 by 1991. As a result, the rural share of the nation's total population dropped from 31.1 percent in 1978 to a mere 14 percent in 1991.

With cheap and abundant labor, the nation was able to import technology for the mass production of export items.

To boost exports, the government made a policy of forcing down interest rates on loans it provided to manufacturers.

This strategy, adopted by the authoritarian government of President Pak Chong-hui, worked well during the early stage of economic development.

But it no longer produces such desired results under the new economic situation, Prof. Yi says.

"It has been proven during the (current) Sixth Republic that President Pak's paradigm, which is characterized by the pursuit of quantitative expansion, no longer works," he says.

He argues when that no longer worked, No Tae-u's government was forced to create a construction boom by implementing his campaign promise to build two million homes in order to inflate growth rates, which would otherwise have been low.

The building boom did in fact prop up the national growth rate. But it also raised wages, pushed up the cost of Korean products, and thus eroded their competitiveness in the world market.

The dwindling work force and high wages, however, are not the only obstacles to growth. Added to these problems is the increasing difficulty domestic enterprises have in obtaining needed technology.

"In the past, they could acquire technology they needed from abroad and at low prices," Yi says. "Now, however, it is very hard for them to import the necessary technology even though they offer high royalty rates."

In addition, the nation has nearly completed its investment in such large-scale industrial projects as steelmaking, shipbuilding and petrochemicals, the development of which boosted the growth rate substantially.

Under these altered circumstances, he says, the nation must adopt a new paradigm of economic development—a strategy of "intensive growth which increases output at a much higher rate than the increasing rate of input."

This strategy, which requires less government intervention in the private sector, but greater rational management and technological innovation, would be painful to the government, enterprises and workers, he says.

The government would have to give up much of its control, in turn giving a freer hand to the private sector, he says.

"It has to limit its role to helping establish a market economy where fair competition is guaranteed, to providing public goods, expanding infrastructure and solving pollution problems," he says.

While workers will be required to pay greater attention to their jobs, he says, businesses must promote efficiency in management and technology development.

With this intensive growth strategy, he says, the nation's economy could grow 5 percent annually while maintaining stability.

The current situation facing the nation is similar to that in Japan two decades ago when investment in large projects neared completion, and labor was in short supply, he says.

Since then, he says, Japan has developed a "technology-intensive industry, producing compact products," which does not require large investment.

The Korean government, which has put stability before growth during the past two years, admits that it will be impossible to sustain past growth rates that at times neared double digits.

However, it maintains that growth rates must be elevated beyond 5 percent to a level of 6 percent to 7 percent.

"Our economy has to grow 6 percent to 7 percent a year if we are to finance growing welfare needs and prepare for unification with North Korea," says Chang of the Economic Planning Board. "We are fortunate that the problem of employment, which has become less severe than in the past, is putting less pressure on growth."

Large corporations oppose the government policy of giving economic growth low priority.

The Korea Economic Research Institute, which voices the interest of large companies, predicts the GNP will grow less than 5 percent this year unless the government changes its economic policy in favor of growth.

The new government under President-elect Kim Yong-sam, who is to be sworn in Feb. 25, should generate growth ranging from 8 percent to 9 percent if it is to push up the per capita GNP to the 1992 Taiwanese level of $10,000 during Kim's five-year tenure, says the institute.

The institute, funded by the Federation of Korean Industries, demands that the new government adopt a high-growth policy to prepare for national unification and create new jobs.

But the Bank of Korea as well as the current government is against such a policy, which is certain to fan inflation and expand the current account deficit.

"We will lose more than gain from high growth," argues O Sung-kyun, chief of the national income division at the Bank of Korea. "We will have to maintain economic stability while expanding the growth potential, instead of pushing for growth at the expense of consumer prices and the balance of payments."

Ministry Seeks Special Law on Doctor Dispatch

SK1502034493 Seoul YONHAP in English 0306 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Seoul, Feb. 15 (YONHAP)—The Foreign Ministry has decided to seek legislation excluding doctors sent to developing countries from military service in an effort to facilitate international medical cooperation, an informed ministry source said Monday.

The tentatively named "Special Law on Dispatch of Medical Personnel for International Cooperation" also covers securing money to pay their salaries, according to the source.

Though requests from developing countries for Korean doctors have been piling up, few people apply due to military obligations and pay, the source said. Relevant ministries have been reluctant to revise the special military service exemption law and the law on public medical service.

"However, the Foreign Ministry will gradually increase the number of government-sent doctors in developing countries to around 200 from 18 in 15 countries at present as the requests have poured in," the source said.

Currently, a doctor sent to a developing country is paid 2,500 to 4,000 U.S. dollars a month for a two-year stint.

Burma

SLORC Transfers Two Ministers

BK1702140993 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Declaration No.1/93 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; dated 17 February]

[Text] Transfer of Appointments of Cabinet Ministers:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], has transferred and appointed the following persons as ministers of the respective ministries:

1. Brigadier General Abel, Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development;
2. Major General Mya Thinn, Ministry of Home Affairs;

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Major General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of SLORC

Appoints Two New Cabinet Ministers

BK1702141193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Declaration No.2/93 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; dated 17 February]

[Text] Appointment of Cabinet Ministers:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in order to effectively perform the economic development of the country, has appointed the following persons as ministers of the respective ministries:

1. Brigadier General Win Tin, Ministry of Finance and Revenue;
2. U Than Aung, Ministry of Cooperatives;

By the authority vested in me
Signed: Major General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of SLORC

Reorganizes Ministry of Planning, Finance

BK1702135193 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Notification No.12/93 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; dated 17 February]

[Text] Reorganization of Ministry:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC], in order to effectively perform the economic development of the country, has reorganized the Ministry of Planning and Finance as follows:

1. Ministry of National Planning and Economic Development
2. Ministry of Finance and Revenue

Signed: Major General Khin Nyunt, Secretary-1 of SLORC

Transfers Deputy Trade Minister

BK1702142493 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Notification No. 13/93 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; dated 17 February]

[Text] Transfer and appointment of deputy minister:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has transferred and appointed Deputy Trade Minister U Win Naing as deputy minister of social welfare, relief, and resettlement.
Signed: Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC

Appoints Two New Deputy Ministers

BK1702142693 Rangoon Radio Burma in Burmese 1330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Notification No. 14/93 of the State Law and Order Restoration Council; dated 17 February]

[Text] Appointment of deputy ministers:

The State Law and Order Restoration Council [SLORC] has appointed the following persons as deputy ministers of the respective ministries:

1. Colonel Aung Thaung, Ministry of Trade;
2. U Tin Hlaing, Ministry of Agriculture;

Signed: Major General Khin Nyunt, secretary-1 of SLORC

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

Mahathir Returns From Bangladesh, Pakistan

BK1802072893 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0520 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 18 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamed returned from his visits to Bangladesh and Pakistan Thursday saying that they have achieved the objectives to foster relations and enhance trade and economic cooperation with these countries. He said many areas of cooperation had been identified by the government and private sector leaders in the delegation.

I found the two countries to be so friendly and with us and this is a good sign for enhancing relations, he said at the airport here. The prime minister and his delegation were in Bangladesh for three days from Friday before visiting Pakistan. He said: I believe that we can follow up the visits with trade activities and cooperation between the governments.

Dr. Mahathir said the visits could also enhance cooperation between ASEAN and the Economic Cooperation

Organisation (ECO) and the South Asian Association of Regional Cooperation (SAARC).

Malaysia might propose to ASEAN to invite the secretariats of these organisations to its ministerial and heads of government conferences, he said. He said although the ECO was still in its early stages, there was potential for Malaysia to use it as a trade link with the countries of Central Asia through Pakistan.

Pakistan is the gateway to the sea for these countries which have no ports and are located far away from the sea, he said. He said Pakistan would build new ports which could be used by these countries.

Hungarian President, Delegation Arrive

BK1802072693 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0524 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 18 (OANA/BERNAMA)—Hungarian President Dr. Arpad Goncz and his wife Zsuzsanna arrived here for a five-day official visit to foster closer ties and trade with Malaysia.

Dr. Goncz was accompanied by a 69-member delegation including Minister of Trade and Industry Ivan Szabo, Secretary of State (Political) of the Ministry of External Economic Relations, Laszlo Bogar and businessmen.

He was met on arrival at the airport by Foreign Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi and Human Resources Minister Lim Ah Lek who is the minister-in-attendance.

At an official welcoming ceremony at Parliament Square later, he was received by the Yang Di-pertuan Agong (the king) Sultan Azlan Shah.

Dr. Goncz is scheduled to have an audience with the king before a state banquet at Istana Negara [State palace] tonight and to hold talks with Prime Minister Datuk Sri Dr. Mahathir Mohamed Friday.

Provisions of Amendment Bill Revealed

BK1802094693 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0800 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Any Malay ruler who is facing court proceedings will have to take leave until the end of the trial under new provisions to the Constitution Amendment Bill, 1993. A regent will be appointed to carry out all the tasks of the Malay ruler. If the ruler is convicted and sentenced to more than a day jail, then he will have to step down from the throne unless he is pardoned. This is one of the new provisions of the bill that will be tabled to a special sitting of Parliament early next month. The lower house will sit for two days from 8 March, while the Senate will sit on 10 March.

The new provisions of the bill were announced by the deputy prime minister, Mr. Ghafar Baba, at a news conference in Kuala Lumpur this afternoon. Another provision is that no criminal or civil proceedings can be initiated against any ruler without the consent of the attorney general. This is to protect the rulers from being victimized by the action of irresponsible elements.

Mr. Ghafar added that Article 181 (2) that was amended during the last special sitting will be reamended. It will now read that the rulers cannot be charged in any court except a special one that will be established. However, a ruler will face the same set of laws and sentences as a common man. The new provisions were agreed to by the Rulers Conference and the government at a meeting on the 11th of this month. Mr. Ghafar said the bill's main objectives of protecting people victimized by the rulers have been fully achieved. The amendments are also in line with the Islamic principles and human rights.

The original bill that was passed by Parliament on the 19th of last month was returned to the house by His Majesty the king this morning.

Government May Send Observers to Cambodia

BK1802095693 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0901 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 18 (OANA-BERNAMA)—Malaysia is prepared to send observers to the elections in Cambodia from May 23 to 27, Acting Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said Thursday. However, Cambodia must issue the invitation to the Foreign Ministry and it must be approved by the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), he told reporters after receiving 14 representatives of Cambodian political parties at his office here.

Abu Hassan, who is domestic trade and consumer affairs minister, said the intention to invite Malaysian observers to the elections was conveyed to him at the meeting. He said the Cambodian delegation was impressed with the way the Election Commission conducted elections here which involved various parties.

On development aid, he said Malaysia was prepared to meet Cambodia's request for help in opening up land in that country as Felda [Federal Land Development Authority] had over 50 years' experience in land development.

He also said Malaysia's exports to Cambodia had risen from RM [Malaysian ringgit] 16 million (U.S. $1: RM 2.6) to RM 50 million worth in the last two years.

UMNO Youth Regrets Intrusion by Thai Officials

BK1702123493 Kuala Lumpur BERNAMA in English 0823 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Feb 17 (OANA-BERNAMA)—The youth wing of the United Malays National Organisation (UMNO), the major part of the ruling National Front coalition government, has suggested that the Malaysian Government build a wall at the Malaysia-Thailand border to prevent further intrusions by personnel of Thai authorities. Its international affairs bureau secretary, Mustapha Yaakub said Wednesday this would resolve the problem of Thai incursions.

He was commenting on Monday's incident in which six Thai Customs officers crossed into Padang Besar and seized goods from Malaysian traders. Mustapha said such intrusions persisted despite the assurances of the Thai Government that it would stop such acts.

He called on the Malaysian immigration, customs and police to tighten entry and exit of Thai nationals into the country and that of Singapore-bound Thai vehicles.

The latest incident is the sixth in the area since the first on June 30 1991.

Border Control Tightened

BK1802075893 Kuala Lumpur Voice of Malaysia in English 0600 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The police will be mounting round-the-clock patrol along the Perlis-Thailand border in Padang Beasr beginning today to ensure public safety. Perlis CPO [Chief Police Officer], SAC [Senior Assistant Commissioner] Hasan Salim, said patrols will also be intensified especially around the areas where Thai customs officers encroached into Malaysian territory and seized goods from Malaysian traders last Monday.

The Thai officers have claimed that 300 packages of palm oil, cooking oil and flour were meant to be smuggled into Thailand and that they were in their territory.

SAC Hasan told reporters that if necessary additional personnel would be deployed they would do so. [sentence as heard] The incident took place in Malaysian territory. He said the situation was under control.

Yesterday, Perlis Chief Minister, Dr. Abdul Hamid Pawanteh, after chairing a specially convened meeting of the state security committee, directed the police, the police field force and the anti-smuggling unit to tighten control of areas around Padang Besar and the Perlis-Thailand border.

Cambodia

FUNCINPEC Office in Kompong Cham Burned

BK1802013693 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Excerpt] Reports from Stoeng Trang district, Kompong Cham Province, say that the Yuon [Vietnamese] and puppet leaders, traitors to the nation, recently ordered their henchmen to completely burn down the office of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party in Stoeng Trang district. The people who assisted in the construction of this office were very angry with the Yuon and puppets for committing this savage act; denounced the latter for not implementing the Paris agreement; and said these people do not want anyone carrying out activities to oppose the Yuon or their puppets. [passage omitted]

Enemy Offensive in Kompong Thom Said Routed

BK1802011893 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Reports from west Kompong Thom battlefield say that the National Army of Democratic Kampuchea [NADK], in cooperation with the people, have routed the offensive of the Yuon [Vietnamese] enemy and puppets in Cheung Pruol and Damrei Slap communes, and Preah Damrei village.

This offensive of the Yuon enemy and puppets started in early February; it has not ended yet. The NADK continues to carry out mopping-up operations in a number of villages and communes. In the offensive, the Yuon and puppets have committed all kinds of brutal activities. They have burned down 35 people's houses and thousands of thang [unit of volume roughly equivalent to a bushel] of paddy and rice; and killed five people and a number of oxen and buffaloes.

These are the cruel and savage activities of the Yuon and puppets who have constantly stirred up things since the Paris agreement, affecting the people's lives and property and the paddy and rice the people have been harvesting. Everyone is aware of these activities. Prince Norodom Sihanouk has clearly talked about all kinds of political terrorist activities committed by the Yuon and puppets against the Cambodian nation and people.

The offensive against the Cambodian people and national resistance forces everywhere has been carried out by the Yuon and puppets. The hideous face of the Yuon and puppets has been more clearly and undoubtedly revealed to people and the world. (endall) BP501802.001 172330 khs/BMcCormack/ps 18/0236z feb BT #2005 NNNN

Bangladeshi Ambassador Received by Officials

Sihanouk Receives Ambassador

BK1802031293 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 17 February at the Tevea Vinichai hall, His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, father of the nation, and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC], received His Excellency [H.E.] (Tisani), ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Bangladesh, who called on him to present credentials.

On this occasion, H.E. (Tisani) profoundly thanked HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk for allowing him to pay the visit and to present his credentials. He said the government and people of Bangladesh have been following and clearly realizing the peace process in Cambodia.

Replying, HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk welcomed and highly appreciated the strengthening of diplomatic relations between Cambodia and Bangladesh and pledged to create favorable conditions for the ambassador to successfully carry out his diplomatic mission in Cambodia. HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk expressed thanks to the government, and particularly people of Bangladesh, for voluntarily sending their sons and husbands to join the peacekeeping force in Cambodia. Furthermore, the prince said that on behalf of the SNC and in his own name, he would like to convey, through the ambassador, thanks and best wishes to President Abdur Rahman of Bangladesh and for further consolidation of the relations of friendship between the people of the two countries.

Hor Namhong Receives Ambassador

BK1802063693 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 17 February at the office of the Foreign Ministry, His Excellency [H.E.] Hor Namhong, foreign minister of the State of Cambodia and member of the Cambodian Supreme National Council, received credentials from H.E. (Tisani), ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Bangladesh.

On this occasion, H.E. Hor Namhong most warmly welcomed the presence of the ambassador. H.E. Hor Namhong informed the guest about the result of the Paris agreement's implementation in Cambodia and the violations of the agreement by the Khmer Rouge. He also thanked the people and Government of Bangladesh for their attention to the Cambodian problem and for sending troops to be part of the peacekeeping force in Cambodia.

H.E. (Tisani) said the people of Bangladesh have constantly followed the Cambodian situation and wanted to see the Cambodian people achieve a genuine peace.

Indonesia

Paper Views Election 'Guessing Game'

BK1702115993 Jakarta THE JAKARTA POST in English 10 Feb 93 p 4

[Editorial: "A Guessing Game"]

[Text] March is approaching and unavoidably the nation is falling into a pastime that recurs every once in five years—the guessing game.

In March the People's Consultative Assembly [MPR] will hold its general session, in which, among other things, a president and a vice president will be elected. Then, usually within two weeks, the president-elect will form a new cabinet and name the ministers.

Since the re-election of President Suharto is practically certain, the logical ensuing question is: Who will be the next Vice President? And subsequently: Who will be nominated commander of the armed forces? And also: Who will head this or that ministry in the coming cabinet? Then, of course, there are hundreds of related questions.

Apparently, few can resist the temptation to join in the guessing game. The media, for example, has of late been full of "predictions", "analyses" and just plain old speculation on the likely cast of the "who's who" of the coming cabinet. At parties or receptions, one simply cannot avoid overhearing conversations on the subject.

The present cabinet ministers, in a way, have helped to spur the game into yielding some lively discussions. In recent meetings at the House of Representatives (DPR), almost all of the ministers spared a few minutes for bidding farewell, murmuring a few words such as, "This will be my last chance to meet you in my capacity as a cabinet minister", or, "My tenure is still only so many days more"—not to mention the private, unquotable remarks on the same matter.

Some official statements even provoked denials from certain state agencies. For example, when Coordinating Minister for Political Affairs and Security Sudomo some two weeks ago stated that the coming Armed Forces commander would be someone who holds the position of chief of staff, the Armed Forces spokesman issued a "clarification" denying such a requirement. He cited General L.B. Murdani as a former Armed Forces commander who had not held that position.

We get the impression that certain factions and groups in our society have deliberately helped to disseminate "predictions", perhaps to impress people or to build up public support, or possibly to simply gauge reactions. It is a public secret that several political groupings are vying to secure certain positions in the next cabinet.

Yet, in a way, the guessing game here is not so different from similar games played in other countries. The difference lies mainly in the way in which the decision making process takes place in this country. Here, much will depend on the president, who will decide almost everything in accordance with his constitutional duties.

For example, although it is the MPR which elects the vice president, in the past it has been customary for the MPR leadership to "consult" the president on the matter before officially naming the vice presidential candidates.

As for cabinet ministers, assuming that President Suharto will be re-elected, judging from the past 25 years of practice, once again it should be very difficult to guess

President Suharto's choices. He is not known to be in the habit of consulting anyone and in almost all cases he has managed to take everybody by surprise. People may remember the time when he named General Jusuf as Armed Forces commander in 1978, or when, as Chairman of the Golkar [Functional Group] Supervisory Body, he nominated Wahono as Golkar chairman in 1988.

Hence, we think the ongoing guessing game is nothing but a good sport and a way to kill time. Before the president puts his signature on the appropriate documents, there is really nothing we can do but guess.

Official: Rice Supply 'More Than Adequate'

BK1702091393 Jakarta Radio Republik Indonesia Network in Indonesian 0700 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Members of the public are urged not to worry because the national rice supply is more than adequate. Speaking in Jakarta, National Logistics Bureau Chairman Bustanil Arifin said, despite the floods which had hit several agricultural areas, the national rice supply was not affected.

Meanwhile, (Bedu Amal), deputy chairman of the National Logistics Bureau in charge of procurement and distribution, said the rice supply stored thorughout the country stands at 1.9 million tons, which is more than normally required. The previous years' rice supply at the beginning of March usually stood at between 800,000 and 1 million tons only. Before the coming Ramadan fasting month, rice price is also expected to drop because of bumper harvests in March and April and an abundant rice supply.

Laos

'Inside' Source Details Leadership Reshuffle

BK1802063993 Bangkok PHU CHATKAN in Thai 18 Feb 93 p 2

[Text] The vacuum in Lao political circles following the death of Kaysone Phomvihan, the former leader of the Lao party and state, on 21 November 1992 has created a standstill in the country's administration. In other words, Laos lacks a supreme leader who really has power.

A source inside the Lao party [Lao People's Revolutionary Party] told PHU CHATKAN that "the acquisition of the presidency by Nouhak Phoumsavan and party chairmanship of Khamtai Siphandon, who concurrently serves as prime minister of Laos, have triggered confusion. This is because the constitution stipulates that the president has the authority to dismiss and appoint the prime minister. At the same time, it is the party chairman who determines the policies and daily administrative tasks of the president and government. The question then is who, between Nouhak and Khamtai, really has power."

The same source revealed that the party had to convene a meeting for three full days to allocate positions to persons acceptable to all sides. The participants agreed to compromise for the time being and decided that changes must be made in the party, National Assembly, and the government after the funeral of the late president and the third National Assembly election.

As for the changes to take place in the party and government, the source said that a new presidenty, party central committees members, the prime minister, and cabinet members will be appointed later.

The source said: "It has been agreed within the party that Nouhak will resign from all his posts in the party and government because he wants to rest. Meanwhile, General Khamtai will concurrently serve as president and party chairman after he resigns from the prime minister's post."

The party during its meeting in mid January agreed to the appointment of Gen. Khamtai as the party chairman and president to replace Nouhak, who is scheduled to resign in the last week of February. Somsavat Lengsavat, head of the Cabinet Office and the right-hand man of late Kaysone Phomvihan will become the prime minister. Lieutenant General Saman Vi-ngaket, minister of education and sports and member of the party central committee's political bureau, will be appointed as the new National Assembly chairman.

Asked about the subsequent reshuffle of other important posts, the source disclosed that Khamphoui Keoboualapha, deputy prime minister and minister for economy, planning, and finance, will become chairman of the Board of Investment and be replaced by Khamsai Souphanouvong, son of Prince Souphanouvong. Dr. Buntiam Phitsamai will replace Phao Bounnaphon as minister for foreign economic relations. Phao Bounnaphon will be appointed as advisor to the Prime Minister's Office. Lieutenant General Osakan Thammatheva will become minister for culture and information while Thongloun Sisoulit will become minister for public health, social welfare, and war veterans.

Phoun Sipaseut will remain as minister for foreign affairs with Souban Salitthilat and Phongsavat Boupha as deputy foreign ministers. Deputy Foreign Minister Soulivong Phasitthidet will be appointed as Lao ambassador to Cuba. Bunteng Vongsai will replace Lt. Gen. Saman Vi-ngaket as education minister.

It is anticipated that the following persons will be appointed to the 11-member political bureau as follows: Gen Khamtai Siphandon, Phoun Sipaseut, Somsavat Lengsavat, Maichantan Sengmani, Lt. Gen. Saman Vignaket, Oudom Khatthi-gna, Lt. Gen. Choummali Saignason, Somlat Chanthamat, Khamphoui Keoboualapha, Thongsing Thammavong, and Lt. Gen. Osakan Thammatheva. Their official appointments will be made public in late February.

Bountiam Phitsamai, deputy minister of foreign economic relations and a well-known economic reformist who is expected to be promoted to head the ministry, disclosed that Laos is in the process of revising regulations and decrees concerned to promote investment and trade so that it can fully use resources and knowledge for the country's development and catch up with other countries in the world.

Thai Interior Minister Arrives 18 Feb

BK1802025093 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] In response to an invitation of His Excellency Major General Asang Laoli, minister of interior of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR], a delegation of the Interior Ministry of the Kingdom of Thailand led by His Excellency General Chawalit Yongchaiyut, minister of interior, together with his wife, arrived in Vientiane at noon yesterday for a two-day official friendship visit to the LPDR. The purpose of the visit to the LPDR by the Thai Interior Ministry delegation on this occasion is to further promote and strengthen the Lao-Thai fraternal solidarity and friendship. It is also aimed at enhancing the cooperation between the interior ministries of the LPDR and the Kingdom of Thailand.

During the visit, the high-level officials of the two countries will exchange views on the Lao-Thai border problem with a view to turning the border into a border of genuine peace and friendship.

The Thai delegation was welcomed at Wattai Airport by His Excellency Maj. Gen. Asang Laoli, minister of interior, and his wife. Nikhom Tantemsap, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Kingdom of Thailand to the LPDR, and Bounkeut Sangsomsak, ambassador of the LPDR to the Kingdom of Thailand, were also on hand to welcome the Thai Interior Ministry delegation at the airport.

Nouhak Receives Outgoing Japanese Envoy

BK1602052893 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] On the morning of 15 February, President Nouhak Phoumsavan of the Lao People's Democratic Republic received a courtesy call from Shigemi Ando, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of Japan to Laos, to bid him farewell after completing his assignment which lasted nearly three years.

During the call, the Lao president reiterated that the diplomatic relations between Laos and Japan, as well as socioeconomic relations, cooperation, and assistance have gradually developed in a more efficient manner. He noted that the Japanese ambassador has significantly contributed to such development and successfully performed his duties during the period. The Lao Government and people would like to thank the friendly Japanese Government and people for their assistance in the defense and building of Laos. Laos wishes the valuable bilateral relations, cooperation, and assistance will continue to improve for the interests of both countries, Laos and Japan, Nouhak Phoumsavan concluded.

In reply, the Japanese ambassador praised and thanked the Lao Government and authorities for providing cooperation and facilities in various fields for his duties, as well as for all Japanese officials assigned to work in Laos. Additionally, the Japanese diplomat expressed his confidence that the time-honored relations of friendship and cooperation between Japan and Laos will continue to strengthen constantly.

Japanese Envoy Hosts Farewell Party

BK1702135393 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 1200 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Shigemi Ando, Japanese ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Laos, and his wife hosted a party at their residence on 16 February to bid farewell to all friends before returning home after ending his diplmatic mission in Laos for nearly three years.

Invited guests at the party included many ministers, deputy ministers, high-ranking officials of Laos, members of the diplomatic corps, and representatives of the international organizations in Laos.

Shigemi Ando also paid courtesy calls on many important Lao leaders to say farewell to them before returning home. The Japanese ambassador was highly acclaimed by the Lao leaders for accomplishing his diplomatic duties here in a fine manner, thereby contributing to further development of relations of friendship, cooperation, and assistance between Laos and Japan.

Oudomsai Delegation Visits SRV, PRC

BK1702085193 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0430 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] In compliance with a memorandum of agreement signed in early November 1992 between the secretaries of Oudomsai Province of the Lao People's Democratic Republic [LPDR] and Nam Ha Province of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a delegation of the Oudomsai Province's national defense and public security command recently paid a visit to the Vietnamese Province of Nam Ha.

The Oudomsai delegation was led by Lieutenant Colonel Thongbai Sai-gnasit, standing member of the Oudomsai Provincial Party Committee and chief of the provincial public security command, and Lt. Col. Chantha, member of the provincial party committee and chief of the provincial military command.

The working visit was aimed at strengthening the special solidarity and all-round cooperation between Laos and Vietnam, as well as between the two provinces, Oudomsai and Nam Ha. Furthermore, the other major purpose of the visit was to exchange with the Vietnamese counterpart views and experiences in the field of national defense and public security maintenance in the modern world.

After spending seven days meeting and drawing lessons from the past experiences of the Vietnamese counterpart, the Oudomsai provincial delegation concluded its official visit to Nam Ha.

Following the visit to SRV's Nam Ha Province, another delegation of the Oudomsai provincial public security command, led by Lt. Col. Anouson, deputy chief of the Oudomsai provincial public security command, also paid a visit to Yunnan Province, the People's Republic of China, at the invitation of the Yunnan provincial public security command.

During the visit, the Oudomsai delegation exchanged views and experiences in the field of public security maintenance with the Yunnan authorities in an atmosphere of intimacy and friendship—the atmosphere reflecting Lao-Chinese solidarity. The visit to Yunnan by the Lao delegation lasted four days.

Philippines

Police Thwart Reported Ramos Assassination Attempt

HK1802030493 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Members of the police and the military were able to thwart an assassination attempt against President Ramos in Baguio City with the arrest of a suspected ranking official of the New People's Army [NPA] operating in the Cordillera region. Senior Superintendent Romeo San Diego, commander of the Criminal Investigation Service in Cordillera, and his men arrested Wilfredo Valencia, the suspected vice chairman of the NPA Norther Luzon Command, after he was spotted acting suspiciously 200 meters from the president, who was watching the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes draw [on 14 February] at Burnham Park, Baguio City. The authorities were able to confiscate a .38-caliber weapon from the suspect.

Police Deny Assassination Plot

HK1802124693 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] The Police Criminal Investigation Service Command [CIS] in Cordillera today denied there was an assassination plot against President Fidel Ramos engineered by a rebel leader arrested on Mabini street [in Baguio City] last Saturday [13 February] at 3:00 PM. Superintendent Mario San Diego, regional officer of the Cordillera CIS, said there was no report of an assassination plot against the president when he attended the Sweepstakes draw in Burnham Park.

According to earlier reports, one Wilfredo Valencia, alias Comrade Bitaw, vice chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army Northern Luzon Operational Command, was allegedly planning to assassinate the president.

[Begin San Diego recording] We do not know that. There was none as far as the arrested Valencia was concerned. [preceding sentence in English] [end recording]

San Diego also said that Burnham Park was too far from the spot where Valencia was arrested by CIS and Armed Forces of the Philippines intelligence operatives.

Senior Superintendent Delfin Tapang, regional director of the military's Regional Command, also said they have not received any report of such a plot, except for the fact that leftists are using Baguio City as a rest and recreation center in the region. In an interview, Valencia said he was in Baguio City just to visit his family. Several of Mayor Mauricio Dumugan's staff said the report came from irresponsible journalists who should not remain in Baguio City.

Government Considers NAFTA Countermeasures

HK1802022493 Manila BUSINESS WORLD in English 18 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) has come up with measures designed to negate the adverse effect of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) on Philippine exports to the United States.

The NAFTA—composed of the U.S., Canada and Mexico—is seen as a threat to local exports because of its rigid local content requirements and special tariff privileges to member countries.

These features will effectively minimize the entry of exports from non-NAFTA countries.

The garment sector, for example, is one area which Government thinks will be hit by the NAFTA.

As a solution, the DTI is proposing the negotiation of an outward processing arrangement with the U.S.

Under this scheme, only the value-added of apparel made from U.S. fabrics should be slapped import duties.

The DTI is also proposing the restructuring of a bilateral agreement to enable exporters to move to the higher end of the garments market.

Garments are among the country's top exports to the U.S., raking in $1 billion in 1990.

Sugar is another export which is predicted to be adversely hit by the implementation of the NAFTA in 1994.

The local sugar sector fears the U.S. will dole out sugar quota allocations previously assigned to other countries to Mexico instead.

This could happen once Mexico becomes a net surplus producer.

To counter this threat, the DTI is proposing that Government lobby for the inclusion of all caloric sweeteners in calculating Mexico's net production surplus.

The DTI said it would also push for the extension of the U.S. Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) to protect the sugar sector.

The DTI has also come up with measures to protect canned tuna, another top export to the U.S.

The DTI said it will work with environmentalist groups to prevent the entry of Mexican tuna to the U.S.

As of now, the U.S. has banned the entry of Mexican tuna because Mexican fishermen are said to be using fishing techniques considered harmful to dolphins.

Romulo Comments on PRC Visit, Spratlys Issue

HK1702015493 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Foreign Affairs Secretary Roberto Romulo has assured that he will remain composed regarding talks about the Spratlys conflict in preparation for his five-day visit to China which starts today. Romulo said the Philippines should anticipate China's stand on its claim for the Spratly Islands in order not to sacrifice favorable relations between the two countries.

Four other countries have expressed their interest in the Spratly Islands because of its rich supply of oil and minerals.

Muslim Rebel Chief Warns of Widespread Tension

HK1502135193 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 15 Feb 93

[From "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] chairman, Nur Misuari, has warned that tension will increase in Mindanao if the military operation pushes through in Basilan due to the murder of 25 soldiers last week. The next MNLF move is not centered only on Basilan but will affect other areas where the Muslim rebels have a presence, like Sulu and Maguindanao.

ABC-5 reporter Arlene dela Cruz visited Sulu recently and reports on the relations between the military and the MNLF there:

[Begin recording] [Dela Cruz] This is the last checkpoint controlled by the military in barangay Tagbak, Indanan, Sulu. Two km from here is the first checkpoint controlled by the MNLF. No direct encounter has occurred between military and MNLF forces in Sulu in the last four years. This is because both camps have observed the local level of cessation of hostilities in Sulu, which was agreed during the peace talks between former President Aquino and MNLF chairman Nur Misuari.

But, according to the military, the MNLF has committed several violations. Among these is the setting up of an MNLF checkpoint which the Marines said is being used by the MNLF to collect progressive taxes.

[Colonel Romeo Daranclang, 2d Marine Brigade commander, in English] They used that checkpoint to exact taxation from the people, forced taxation, and there are complaints that we are getting. You see, these are what we call progressive taxation, they tax businessmen higher and the jeepney operators also, and the people that are passing by.

[Dela Cruz] The military also said the MNLF checkpoints have been used several times as pick-up points for kidnap victims. The MNLF said it still has thousands of armed men who can be ranged against the military any time.

[Abu Ambre Taddik, MNLF deputy secretary-general for military affairs, in English] The whole island of Sulu, including the smallest islands, Tawitawi, part of Palawan, central Mindanao and southeastern Mindanao—these areas were controlled by the MNLF, except in the urban areas, because we are roaming around.

[Dela Cruz] Five battalions are now assigned to Sulu but they cannot carry out real pursuit operations within the MNLF area. Real pursuit operations can only be carried out in areas controlled by the military, like this place, inside the Putakul [as heard] detachment in the Sulu mountains.

Aside from the air assets, the military's arms are equalled by those of the MNLF. In some cases, some MNLF arms are more modern than those used by ordinary soldiers. [end recording]

Meanwhile, a battalion from the Special Action Forces of the Philippine National Police [PNP] was sent this morning to Basilan to help in the ongoing military operation.

The group from the Third PNP Special Battalion is led by Chief Inspector Eduardo Dionisio. The group's main task is to provide protection to civilians amid the rising tension between the MNLF and the military.

MNLF Chairman Urges Focus on Peace Process

HK1602010093 Quezon City ABS-CBN Broadcasting Corporation DZMM in Tagalog 0400 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Text] Nur Misuari, Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF] chairman, has stressed that the government and the MNLF must go beyond emotionalism regarding the recent massacre of 21 [as heard] Philippine Marines and four militiamen in Basilan. Misuari warned that future military operations in Basilan will worsen the situation if not waste innocent lives. Misuari added it is more important for both sides to gain true peace.

[Begin Misuari recording in English] As I have been staying here in the Middle East, I would like to protect the integrity of the talks. I don't want any interruption as much as possible. It is important to talk about the peace process. [preceding sentence in Tagalog] We must not be derailed. We must not be, you know, we must not be tempted by our emotions to overdo our reaction to this incident because what is important is we must carry on despite everything with this peace process if only there is still a way of continuing with it. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Misuari shrugged off reports about investigations that he reportedly was offered to run as the principal administration party candidate for the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao [ARMM] elections. Misuari said he and the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] do not recognize the legality of the ARMM.

Meanwhile, Misuari said Sulu Sultan Jamalul Kiram's threat to wage a holy war against Malaysia in order to push claim for Sabah is proof of a worsening situation in Mindanao. Misuari stressed for intelligent means to find a solution to the problem in Mindanao, which will be the key to solving the Sabah issue.

[Begin Misuari recording] So the situation has become very complicated. Therefore, it is very important to exercise calm and wisdom in trying to bring solutions to this problem. And I think there is an interconnection between the problem in the South and the problem in Sabah. So once we are able to solve that problem, which is the problem in Mindanao, I think we will be able to automatically solve the problem of Sabah as well. [end recording]

Local Government Chief Urges 'Care' on Sabah

HK1702015393 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Rafael Alunan, Department of Interior and Local Government secretary, has warned families of the Sulu sultanate to refrain from expressing provocative comments regarding the Philippine claim for Sabah. Alunan said the move might adversely affect President Fidel V. Ramos' efforts to solve the problem. Alunan responded to comments made by Sultan Jamalul Kiram III together with his relatives, adding Kiram should respect ongoing negotiations between the government and Malaysia in relation to the Sabah issue. Kiram earlier said he is ready to go to war with Malaysia, if needed, in order to claim Sabah.

NUC Seeks Changes To Attract More Rebels

HK1702005093 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 1100 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] National Unification Commission Chairperson Haydee Yorac wants to change the concept of the government's National Reconciliation Development Program [NRDP] so that more rebel returnees will benefit from it. In an interview with reporters, Yorac said the NRDP should serve more than as a dole-out center for rebels who have laid down their arms. She said that if the NRDP concept is changed, more leftist rebels would surrender with the hope that the government will help them start a new means of earning a living.

Authorities Kill Red Scorpion Leader

HK1702152293 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 17 Feb 93

[From the "ABC-DWET News Program"]

[Text] Alfredo de Leon, alias Joey de Leon, was killed by elements of the PNP-CIS, AFP, PACC [Philipine National Police-Criminal Investigation Service, Armed Forces of the Philippines, Presidential Anti-Crime Commission] and Bulacan police during an encounter. De Leon, who carried a 2.5 million-peso reward on his head, was finally found after a long search.

De Leon was known as the leader of the dreaded kidnap-for-ransom gang the Red Scorpion Group [RSG]. Michael Barnes, an American executive, was among the RSG's victims. Here is Rom Roque With more details:

[Begin recording] [Roque] Residents of Sitio Danga, Barangay San Miguel, Calumpit, Bulacan, were roused at dawn today by an exchange of fire between the authorities and Alfredo de Leon, the number one wanted criminal in the country. De Leon, known as the leader of the Red Scorpion Group, sustained several wounds in the body and died on the spot. Last year, in an exclusive interview with ABC-5, De Leon even advised PACC chief Joseph Estrada on how to solve the problem of crime in the country.

[De Leon] Erap [Estrada] is a showbiz person; he gives more value to publicity and propaganda. I told him this is not the way to do it. Crime is solved by using strategies and tactics.

[Roque] But it seems De Leon was wrong, because uncomplicated tactics were resposible for his fall. He has long been hunted by authorities but has always managed to escape. Today, with the help of concerned citizens, the law caught up with him. According to Captain Cesar Mancao from the PNP-CIS, De Leon tried to escape after authorities surrounded his hiding place. He fired several shots and grazed Captain Mancao.

De Leon had no armed bodyguards, but authorities arrested 16-year-old Christopher Reyes, who allegedly was De Leon's messenger. Authorities recovered a .45-caliber pistol, some 6,000 pesos in cash, some letters from his family, and other personal effects from De Leon. The death of Alfredo de Leon may mean the end of RSG kidnapping activities, but it does not mean the end of kidnapping in the Philippines, as long as there are kidnappers still at large. [end recording]

In reaction to the killing of De Leon, President Fidel Ramos and Vice President Joseph Estrada traded words of praise. While Ramos gave recognition to the value and dedication of the law enforcers who undertook the operation, however, he challenged them to continue to fight crime. Vice President Estrada said the operation would not have been a success without the support of the president.

[Begin Estrada recording in English] I'd like to give him all the credit for the support that the president has given us, and he gave this fight against kidnapping priority. [end recording]

In Congress, Sorsogon Representative Bonifacio Gillego expressed concern over the circumstances of De Leon's death. He said the Committee on Human Rights, which he heads, will investigate suspicions that De Leon was killed because he knew too much.

[Begin Gillego recording in English] If, however—and this will be shown in later developments—that the idea was to put him out simply because he knows a lot about alleged connivance between the criminal elements and the scalawags in the police and the armed forces, then this should be looked into. [end recording]

Alfredo de Leon's wife, Rosario, said the RSG leader was planning to surrender. She said De Leon had talked to Comrade Hector, a New People's Army leader who surrendered recently, to bring his intention to surrender to the attention of President Ramos.

Rebel Leader Reportedly Ousted From NPA

HK1702005293 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 16 Feb 93

[Text] Leopoldo Mabilangan, alias Comrade Hector, has been ousted from the New People's Army's [NPA] Banahaw Command. This was announced by Gregorio Rosal, alias Comrade Roger, spokesman for the NPA's Melito Glor Command. Comrade Roger said Comrade Hector was ousted from the group primarily because he met with several members of Congress to apply for presidential amnesty. Comrade Roger revealed that Comrade Hector was ousted from the NPA on 29 January after he was declared absent without official leave [preceding four words in English] for his refusal to talk to party leaders. He also stressed that Comrade Hector may no longer speak and negotiate on the behalf of the NPA during the peace talks and may no longer represent any NPA unit in the southern Tagalog region.

It will be recalled that Comrade Hector earlier reportedly met with Congressman Marcial Punzalan of the second district of Quezon to apply for amnesty and other benefits being offered by the Ramos administration under the peace process.

Meanwhile, Congressman Punzalan said although Comrade Roger's announcement of Comrade Hector's dismissal from the NPA may have a negative psychological effect, he still believes that Comrade Hector's followers are firm in their support for the southern Tagalog NPA leader.

[Begin Punzalan recording] They will not lose faith in Comrade Hector if they truly understand what Comrade Hector is doing. So when he comes out on Wednesday and explains that he is not actually surrendering to the government, that he is not trying to discredit the movement, that he is optimistic of the peace process, and that he wishes to support the peace talks—what could be wrong with these beliefs—people, instead of hating him, will love him even more. [end recording]

NPA Leader Says Prominent Rebel Not Expelled

HK1802053993 Quezon City ABC-DWET Television in Tagalog 1000 GMT 17 Feb 93

[From "ABC-DWET News Program"; passage within slantlines in English]

[Text] Comrade Roger, a leader of the New People's Army [NPA] in Southern Tagalog, clarified today that Leopoldo Mabilangan or Comrade Hector was not expelled but was only declared absent without official leave from the NPA. This was the statement of Congressman Marcial Punzalan of Quezon after he met with Hector and Roger. Punzalan claimed that Hector told him he would surface after a few days to clarify reports that he had joined the Red Scorpion Group.

[Begin Punzalan recording] They are not sure that Comrade Hector is involved with De Leon of Red Scorpion. But I would say that in my talks with him, /for a very long time we have been talking/, he has no involvement in the RSG [Red Scorpion group]. [end recording]

Meanwhile, Speaker Jose de Venecia denied reports that Hector gave the information that led authorities to the whereabouts of the fallen Red Scorpion leader, Alfredo de Leon.

AFP Chief Sees Communist Movement Weakening

HK1802124593 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] There is a major possibility that the communist rebel movement will end soon due to rifts between the group of Jose Maria Sison and that of Romulo Kintanar. General Lisandro Abadia, Armed Forces of the Philippines [AFP] chief, made this assessment at a military command conference in Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City.

Abadia said that the conflict within the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army-National Democratic Front [CPP-NPA-NDF] has become more serious since Sison's insistence on not attending the peace talks the government has offered the communist rebels. Kintanar, on the other hand, has expressed his readiness to face and accept the peace offer, and this has made Sison furious. Sison accused Kintanar of allegedly conniving with the military after he was freed by the present administration. Abadia further said the number of communist rebels has dwindled by 20 percent. The CPP-NPA-NDF population was 15,000 last January 1992, while today only 12,000 reportedly remain.

Thailand

Deputy Premier Meets U.S. Envoy on Treaty

BK1702034593 Bangkok THE NATION in English 17 Feb 93 p B1, B2

[Text] The Chuan government is not expected to amend the 1966 bilateral Amity Treaty between Thailand and the United States which grants special privileges to the US citizens and companies with business interests in the Kingdom.

Preserving the status quo would be considered an expression of good faith on Thailand's behalf.

A senior official at the Government House said late last month that Deputy Prime Minister Suphachai Phanitchaphak told the US ambassador that Thai government recognized the significance of the accord and would not do anything to harm the bilateral relationship.

Suphachai said that reports about a possible abrogation of the Treaty of Amity were only speculation.

Thai-US trade relationships have come under strong pressure recently because US officials are scheduled to announce whether Thailand will continue to be listed on the US' priority foreign countries (PFC) list to be named in April.

According to a senior Thai official, the Suphachai remark came in response to the US Ambassador, David Lambertson's, concern over the possible ending of the bilateral Treaty of Amity between Thailand and the United States.

Suphachai met Lambertson on Jan 22.

According to the official, Lambenson told Suphachai that US businessmen were concerned that their businesses might be affected if the Thai government amended clauses in the treaty which grants Americans privileges withheld from citizens and companies from other overseas countries.

The Alien Business Law (known as the National Executive Council announcement 281) requires special permission for aliens to engage in activities from rice farming, internal trade in agricultural products, accounting, advertising, architecture to hairdressing, construction and hotel ownership.

The US Trade Representative has persistently voiced displeasure with the patent law approved under the Anan I Administration, saying that Thai law denies pipeline protection to drugs unavailable on the domestic market, but necessary for clinical tests.

Apart from pipeline protection, Lambertson also urged Thailand to relax its compulsory licensing provision which provides powers for the government to withdraw patent-holders' rights.

Another dispute was over America wanting Thailand to scrap the Pharmaceutical Patent Board, established under the new Patent Act.

The Board will have the authority to seek information from US producers, but the US drug firms are afraid business information might be leaked because some board members come from the Thai private sector.

The US ambassador praised the Thai government for its efforts to solve the problem of human rights at home. Suphachai informed him that the Thai government recently set up a committee to oversee the labour issue.

Meanwhile, the Committee on International Economic Policy will place emphasis on the Thai-US trade relations in today's meeting.

Thai-US relations aside, the committee will also discuss alleged piracy of EC music recordings in Thailand and the origin certification of bonito sarda for export to the EC.

EC officials earlier asked Thailand to accelerate action to stamp down on the widespread abuse of EC music recordings in Thailand.

Thai officials argue that most cases are concluded with out-of-court settlements.

Tripartite Body To Curb Copyright Violations

BK1702093293 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in English 0000 GMT 19 Feb 93

[Text] Thailand has set up a tripartite body to curb copyright violation. Deputy Commerce Minister Churin Laksanawisit says the tripartite body comprises representatives of the Commerce Ministry, the General Attorney, and the Police Department. Mr. Churin says the U.S. has filed complaints against Thailand on copyright violation, a problem that has not been completely solved. He says Thailand, however, has been considering such issue a priority problem to be seriously solved and it needs cooperation of both government and private sectors.

According to Mr Churin, the Commerce Ministry, the General Attorney, and the Police Department have been concerned over the problem and have made a satisfactory progress on the solution while a tripartite body has been set up to cope with the problem.

Papers View Decision To Allow Dalai Lama Visit

BK1502123193

[Editorial Report] Two Bangkok Chinese-language newspapers—ZHONG HUA RIBAO and XIAN XIAN

RIBAO—carry editorials on the Thai Government's decision to allow the Tibetan spiritual leader, the Dalai Lama, to visit the country.

ZHONG HUA RIBAO's 13 February editorial, entitled "National Interest Should Be Taken Into Account in Handling the Dalai Lama Issue", says that the Dalai Lama will come to Thailand on 16 February for a three-day visit. He will be joining six other Nobel laureates to study the situation in Burma and to press for the release of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi. It is normal to call for respect for human rights and oppose military rule. This is welcomed by any democracy-loving country. The decision to grant an entry visa to the Dalai Lama, however, has drawn the attention of all parties concerned. The editorial says that "judging from the Thai and Chinese officials' comments, we know that China considers this issue as a matter of principle—countries friendly to China should not allow any political figures committed to splitting China visit their countries. Thailand refused to grant the Dalai Lama a visa in 1990." Thai Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri reiterated that it is Thailand's right to grant such an entry visa. He also pointed out that Thailand is a country under a democratic administrative system. Any person can enter the country as long as he does not cause any danger or have an effect on diplomatic relations. Foreign countries should not interfere in this. Judging from the tone of comments by both the Thai and Chinese sides, people feel that the Dalai Lama's visit to Thailand may affect the long-existing friendly relations between the two countries. The paper also says that "of course, we are a sovereign country. We have the right to make any decision. But we also have to take into account the gains and losses. In handling diplomatic affairs, gains and losses have to be taken into account. Although we cannot allow another country to interfere in our decision, the government should also think carefully about whether there will be more losses than gains in allowing the Dalai Lama to visit the country. We cannot sacrifice our national interests."

In conclusion, the editorial says that "if the decision to allow the Dalai Lama's visit will bring more benefit than maintaining good relations with China, it will win the people's support. There are still three days left before 16 February. The government still has time to reconsider its decision by taking into account national interests."

XING XIAN RIBAO's 15 February editorial, entitled "Trying To Make All Parties Concerned Understand the Implementation of Our Independent Foreign Policy," says that the world mass media is paying attention to Bangkok since a group of Nobel peace laureates will gather in Thailand to press for the release of Burmese opposition leaer Aung San Suu Kyi. The government's decision to allow such a gathering to take place in Thailand will affect relations with Burma if the Burmese military government does not understand the situation. The paper says that Thailand is in a very difficult position to implement an independent policy. It has invisibly become an anti-Burmese base and has been seen to be exerting pressure on Burma in favor of the Western countries. Moreover, its decision to allow the Dalai Lama to visit the country may also cause trouble with China.

The editorial says that "there have been several attempts to oppose Burma's violations of human rights and to call for the release of Aung San Suu Kyi. But the Burmese Government has remained indifferent. So, this peace mission is not expected to prompt the Burmeas Government to change its mind." It is difficult to predict whether or not China will understand Thailand's decision over the Dalai Lama's visit.

"We hope that the Dalai Lama will not do anything beyond his peace mission to affect the Sino-Thai relations. As Thai citizens, we feel happy with the Chuan administration's implementation of an independent policy. But we also realize that it is necessary to reach an understanding with China over this issue," the editorial concludes.

ZHONG HUA RIBAO carries an editorial entitled "More Losses Than Gains" in its 15 February edition. The editorial says that "the Chinese Government has twice announced its stand over Thailand's decision to grant an entry visa for the Dalai Lama. It pointed out that the Dalai is not a pure religious figure. He has been engaging in political acts aimed at splitting the motherland for a long time. It also hoped that Thailand will handle the issue properly since China and Thailand are good neighboring countries." The announcement of China's stand over the Dalai Lama issue cannot change Thailand's decision to allow the Dalai Lama to visit the country. Some public opinion holds that this is the Chuan government's brave decision. It reflects the spirit of maintaining an indenpendent diplomacy and the government's support for democracy and human rights. This will help improve the country's international image, which will benefit the country. Opponents, however, hold that this is a hasty decision and will cause more losses than gains.

The editorial continues: "The Dalai Lama will stay in Thailand for about 20 hours. There will be no big crisis in Thai-Chinese relations or Thai-Burmese relations at present. It is difficult, however, to predict what will happen in the future. Thailand and China have maintained close ties since the establishment of diplomatic relations in 1975. Thailand has twice refused entry to the Dalai Lama. The Chuan government's decision to allow the Dalai Lama to visit the country despite the Chinese Government's warning will raise some doubts in China. China may have to review its policy towards Thailand after seeing Thailand's performance in the future. So, although Thai-Chinese relations may not be affected by the Dalai Lama's visit to Thailand, it may cause some unpleasantness. Burma may also be unhappy with Thailand and may even adopt a hostile attitude."

In conclusion, the editorial says "Thailand's decision to allow entry for the Dalai Lama and other Nobel laureates to visit the Thai-Burmese border will cause greater international pressure on Burma. Thailand will benefit from such a decision. But, there are a lot of disadvantages."

Paper Criticizes Military Stance on Visit

BK1702023793 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Feb 93 p 4

[Editorial: "Military Thinking Out of Tune With the Times"]

[Text] Unlike old soldiers who supposedly never die but only fade away, old-fashioned thinking, it seems, lingers on without regard for changing times and circumstances. Apparently, Army Commander-in-Chief Gen Wimon Wongwanit and several of his peers in the military belong to the breed which faithfully subscribe to the old school of thought—that national security, real or perceived is of paramount importance and takes precedence over other considerations in determining the military's role and actions.

The army chief's view opposing the visit here of the eight Nobel Peace Prize laureates on the grounds that it might jeopardise Thailand's relations with Burma, China and other countries appears to be symptomatic of the military's preoccupation with anything it perceives to have security implications. The citing of such vague and all-encompassing terms as national security to justify the military's views or actions has been done so frequently in the past that the use of such references has become virtually devoid of meaning or impact and usually comes across as mere empty words.

Obviously, the army chief feels that the Government's permission to grant entry for the laureates, especially the Dalai Lama, may be tantamount to interference with the internal affairs of Burma and China which goes against the Government's declared policy of non-interference in the affairs of other countries. His concern may be understandable as his foremost duty is to protect national security. But his apparent oversensitivity in regard to this particular issue has apparently prevented him from seeing with a clearer mind and better understanding exactly what lies beyond the realm of security affairs. These other considerations are also important and beneficial to the country and its people. Our national pride, national sovereignty and independence are just as vital and must also be taken into account.

There is little dispute that China has been, in the past several years, one of Thailand's best friends despite China's past record of support for communist insurgency in Thailand. At the time of the various oil crises, China supplied Thailand with the precious commodity and when we had difficulty in finding market for our rice, it was, again, China which made offers to buy the rice. The Thai military, especially, has been the recipient of several "friendship price" arms deals by China. Of course, we should feel grateful to China for what it has done for this country. But that sense of gratitude should not allow us to go to the extent of submitting ourselves to Peking's dictation, particularly as far as the Dalai Lama's case is concerned. As a particularly good friend of Thailand, a politically-mature China should understand that it could not impose its will on other nations, especially smaller nations, if it has respect for, and recognition of, their sovereignty and independence.

The military should not feel worried that the visit of the Nobel laureates would send a wrong signal to China and the oppressive regime in Burma. Their warm relationship with the oppressive military junta which is purely based on security and economic considerations at the expense of the Burmese people is unlikely to be harmed given their unwavering support of the regime.

The signal which is to be conveyed to the Rangoon regime by the mere presence of the laureates is a moral one. It is borne on a voice of conscience by the very decent men who will simply be telling the ruling military junta in the manner of a friend that the way they are treating their Burmese citizens, and especially the house arrest imposed without any charges on Aung San Suu Kyi, is totally wrong, inhumane and unacceptable in a civilised world.

We may feel reassured that we have a military establishment which is genuinely concerned with national security and defence. But we will feel even more relieved and secure if our military shows itself to have a human face and heart. A military which does not only fight for the defence of the country in time of a war, but also has the conscience to judge right from wrong and sin from virtue.

Papers Comment on Nobel Laureates' Campaign

BK1702111593

[Editorial Report] Two Thai-language papers—SIAM RAT and MATICHON—carry editorials on the visit to Thailand by Nobel laureates, including the Dalai Lama, to campaign for the Burmese Government to release Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Bangkok SIAM RAT in Thai on 17 February carries a 500-word editorial on page 4, entitled: "Honor on Top of Divisivenesss." The editorial says: "Prime Minister Chuan Likphai explained that the government thoroughly has considered and believed that the visit of seven Nobel laureates, including the Dalai Lama, would not generate anything negative. He pointed out that the visit would be positive in that it would demonstrate Thailand's honor and righteousness. The government's view, however, has been opposed by many people, including senior military officials and opposition members."

The editorial continues: "The Nobel prize winners reportedly are going to be received by the king. There is a regulation requiring the government or the prime minister to approve any audience with the king. Therefore, to deny that the government has any part in the visit by the Nobel laureates is nothing more than an excuse to avoid responsibility."

The editorial concludes: "The visit of the Nobel laureates may be an honor for Thailand. But the issue is the purpose of the visit, which evidently is to use Thailand as an arena to wage a human rights campaign for the release of Suu Kyi." It adds: "This type of action is hostile to the government in Burma, a neighbor of Thailand."

"There are currently many problems, domestic and international, awaiting to be solved. We would rather see the government solve these problems than dwelling on an intangible, nonsensical honor and prestige issue that could create conflict and split the Thai people."

Bangkok MATICHON in Thai on 17 February carries a 500-word editorial on page 8, entitled: "Overly Worried." The editorial says: "The worry expressed by senior military officials over the visit of the Dalai Lama and fellow Nobel laureates and their fear that the visit would amount to creating an enemy is unreasonable and excessive. Such comment is unethical and beyond duty. A look from another angle would reveal that such an expression implies support for the Burmese military government, which is being criticized throughout the world for its brutal repression of its people. The conduct of the Chinese Government is also no different."

The editorial concludes: "Military officials should study and thoroughly understand government policy. In a civilized country, any expression that indicates a conflict with the goverment must be avoided. The military officials' view is unethical and amounts to bad strategy. The Thai media must also share responsibility in that it has not been able to move away from the repetitious task of constantly following military officials for their comments. A move away from such a boring task would certainly raise democracy a step higher."

Dalai Lama 'Optimistic' Over China

BK1702131793 Hong Kong AFP in English 0902 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 17 (AFP)—Tibet's spiritual leader the Dalai Lama said here Wednesday he was optimistic of a positive change in Beijing's policy towards his homeland "in a few years".

"Basically I'm optimistic, in spite of some obstacles, some difficulties," the Dala Lama said at the Foreign Correspondents Club here, when asked if he saw hope of a change in China's attitude to Tibetan calls for autonomy.

The Dalai Lama, in Thailand as part of a mission by Nobel Peace Prize laureates seeking the release of Burma's detained pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi, also said there must be negotions on Tibet "without preconditions".

"I make every effort to find dialogue. Without preconditions, we must start talks...negotitiations, that's my position," he said.

The Dalai Lama has been living in exile in India since 1959 when he fled his homeland in the aftermath of an abortive uprising against Chinese rule, and is seen by many as the symbol of Tibetan opposition to Chinese rule.

Citing economic growth as well as a growing awareness among intellectuals, students and some officials, as reasons for his optimism, he said there was "more openness, a wider perspective of views growing" in China.

"In a few years' time I think things will really improve," he said.

The Dalai Lama said he had been trying to open dialogue with Beijing since China's occupation of Tibet, particularly in the 14 years since the Chinese, in an apparent softening of their position, offered to let him return to China and visit Tibet if he renounced any political role there.

He declined the conditional invitation to return, but has since made several proposals to Beijing, including the suggestion that Beijing maintain control of Tibet's foreign affairs and defence in return for autonomy.

China had earlier this month warned Thailand not to grant the Dalai Lama a visa to join the Nobel laureates mission on Burma.

On two previous occasions Bangkok has bowed to pressure from Beijing and refused the Dalai Lama entry, and the current visit is his first to Buddhist Thailand in more than two decades.

The government of Prime Minister Chuan Likphai rebutted the Chinese warning, stressing that the visit would have no effect on China's internal affairs.

Thailand's powerful military leadership, however, made it clear that it opposed his coming and warned that Thai-Chinese relations would suffer as a result.

The military also opposed an invitation from the Supreme Patriach for the Tibetan leader to spend Tuesday night at Wat Bowon Niwet, one of the country's most revered Buddhist temples and the official residence of the patriarch.

Despite the military's objections the Dalai Lama stayed at the temple.

Wednesday he refused to comment on the wrangle saying: "I do not want to create any embarrassment."

He was due to leave Thailand and return to India later Tuesday.

Further on Dalai Lama's Comments

BK1802100193 Bangkok XING XIAN RIBAO in Chinese 18 Feb 93 p 4

[By correspondent Liu Zhenyan]

[Text] Asked about China, the Dalai Lama said yesterday that he still cherished an affection for China. He said: "Basically I am still optimistic over China in spite of some obstacles and difficulties. I believe that there will be greater openness. In a few years time, things will really improve. More Chinese students, officials, and soldiers are supporting the open and reform policy.."

Regarding Tibet, the Dalai Lama said that he had made efforts to engage China in dialogue and negotiations during the past 40 years after Chinese Communist Party's occupation of Tibet. But, Beijing has set up preconditions. He reiterated that "if there are no preconditions, we will start talks. This is my stand."

Asked about his impression about Beijing's political figures, the Dalai Lama only mentioned two persons. One is late Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Hu Yaobang and the other is Chinese strongman Deng Xiaoping. "Hu Yaobang—his thinkings were quite practical and wise. Deng Xaoping is becoming wiser with the advance of his age."

When a Taiwan correspondent asked the Dalai Lama whether he would visit Taiwan if invited by the Taiwanese Government, the Dalai Lama replied "Yes."

Taiwan expressed dissatisfaction over the Tibet uprising staged by the Dalai Lama and the demand for Tibet's independence. Like China, it regards the Dalai Lama as the motherland's enemy. However, the Taiwan Foreign Ministry has hinted that it will invite the Dalai Lama to visit Taiwan after Taiwan President Li Teng-hui adopted an "elastic diplomacy."

Laureates Call for Arms Sanctions on Burma

BK1702131593 Hong Kong AFP in English 1143 GMT 17 Feb 93

[By Kate Webb]

[Text] Bangkok, Feb 17 (AFP)—Three Nobel laureates campaigning for the release of Burmese pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi called Wednesday for an embargo on arms sales to Burma as the Dalai Lama urged Suu Kyi not to lose hope.

"Sanctions are what the Burmese junta fears most," South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu told journalists here, adding that the junta in neighbouring Burma was using what arms it had for repression.

The outspoken Tutu also said he favoured trade and aid sanctions against the military regime in Rangoon, saying they had worked in South Africa and that to say they would hurt the Burmese people rather than the regime was "twaddle of the first order."

The Dalai Lama, in a separate and milder statement at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand, gave his backing. "The idea of an arms embargo, these things are practical, and morally speaking they are a very right one," he said.

He did not address the question of general sanctions, but urged Aung San Suu Kyi, who is now in the fourth year of house arrest in Rangoon, to be brave.

"She must have patience, determination. She must not lose hope," the Tibetan spiritual leader said.

Former Costa Rican president Oscar Arias called Suu Kyi a courageous symbol of hope to the Burmese people, and speaking later with reporters said he too would back an arms embargo.

"What can be done (to put international pressure on the junta to release Suu Kyi and democratise) is to put an end to the sale of arms," he said. "Eighty-five percent of the weapons going to the Third World are sold by the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council."

Rangoon-based diplomats say the Burmese junta buys the bulk of its weapons from China, with smaller amounts coming from the region and the international arms market.

The United States, Australia, the countries of the European Community and Japan all suspended aid to Burma after a bloody military crackdown on a nationwide uprising against dictatorship in 1988, but international oil companies rushed into the country in 1989.

Observers noted that the arms embargo call was not a formal one, and that it had not been addressed by the three other Nobel laureates and two representatives of Nobel winning organisations here for the Suu Kyi freedom crusade.

The group, which includes representatives of Amnesty International and the American Friends Services Committee, a Quaker organisation, is scheduled to travel to the Thai-Burmese border Thursday to interview refugees from the junta in Rangoon, known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC).

Thousands of refugees, some of them members of Suu Kyi's National League for Democracy, which swept SLORC-organised national elections in 1990 but was never allowed to take power, have fled to Burma.

After interviewing the refugees, the group, minus the Dalai Lama, is scheduled to meet with Thai King Phumiphon Adunyadet in the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai on Friday.

The Dalai Lama, whose presence in Thailand was strongly opposed by China, whose troops invaded Tibet in 1950, was scheduled to fly back to his home in exile in India later Wednesday.

The rest of the group will travel on to Geneva to testify on Burma before the United Nations Commission on Human Rights in the second phase of their misssion, which has the backing of Washington and other laureates including Mikhail Gorbachev, Mother Teresa, and the most recent winner, Rigoberta Menchu.

In Thailand, meanwhile, foreign policy tensions over the misssion's high-profile presence here appeared to have been defused with the Foreign Office announcement that Foreign Minister Prasong Sunsiri would make an official visit to Beijing on February 27.

His deputy, Surin Phitsuwan, will leave for Burma on Thursday to discuss common border problems and, he said, to show that Thai-Burmese relations "were not affected" by the Nobel mission, which also drew strong criticism from the Thailand's own military.

Dalai Lama Supports Call

BK1802023593 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Feb 93 pp 1, 3

[Excerpt] The Dalai Lama yesterday called for an international arms embargo against Burma and urged a gradual, global "demilitarisation".

The Tibetan spiritual leader also expressed support for a "gentler" Asian way and a "stronger" Western approach to dealing with the military junta in Rangoon.

He called on detained Burmese dissident Aung San Suu Kyi not to lose hope.

He also voiced optimism that the Tibetan situation would improve "in a few years' time".

The Dalai Lama yesterday held an hour-long press conference at the Foreign Correspondents Club of Thailand.

He refused to discuss controversial subjects, saying he did not wish to embarrass his host government. His 27-hour visit was permitted by the Government despite strong reservations from senior military figures and warnings from China.

The Dalai Lama returned to India last night after gracing the start of a campaign by Nobel peace laureates to obtain the release of Aung San Suu Kyi—and other political prisoners datained in Burma—and restore democracy to that country.

The Dalai Lama has been living in exile in India since fleeing his homeland in 1969 in the wake of an abortive uprising against Chinese occupation.

He said a "high percentage" of Burma's national budget was spent on arms.

The availability of arms inevitably leads to "some kind of human suffering" particularly when there is also "narrow-mindedness". "Military forces, weapons create problems," he said. The idea of an arms embargo therefore is "practical and morally speaking... very right". In the wider context he called for gradual, global "demilitarisation" and, as an alternative, proposed the establishment of a single "collective" force to deal with future threats.

He said today's world, free of the Cold War and East-West confrontation, favoured the promotion of "demilitarisation".

The idea was "rather impractical" before the Berlin Wall "disappeared", he said.

The Dalai Lama proposed step-by-step procedures toward "demilitarisation" beginning with "denuclearisation", followed by a ban on offensive weapons and eventually the dismantling of military establishments.

Alternatively, a "collective" force should be set up to combat "serious" threats which he expects to continue around the world. He said logic called for the application of both "constructive engagement", as advocated by some Asian states, and "confrontation", as preferred by the West, in dealing with Rangoon.

The "more gentle way" should be pursued first, he said. "If that doesn't work, then as a second step stronger measures. That is logic.

He said the success of efforts, such as the Nobel peace laureate mission, for the freedom of Aung San Suu Kyi would come through constant and continuous work.

He called on the dissident herself to continue exercising patience and determination and stressed that she "should not lose hope".

The Dalai Lama said he had joined the December 1991 appeal by Nobel peace laureates for her release and had made a personal effort for her freedom in May 1992 when the military junta released some political prisoners.

Aung San Suu Kyi has been under house arrest since July 1989. An estimated 1,500 political prisoners are believed to be languishing in jails in Burma.

The Dalai Lama, when asked to compare his situation with that of Aung San Suu Kyi, said as a refugee he was free to move.

He said it was difficult to say if the Burmese dissident's stay in Burma would be more or less "useful" to the cause.

There are certain things one can do from the "outside" while sometimes one can be more useful by staying "inside", he said. [passage omitted]

Dalai Lama Ends Visit, Departs

BK1702140493 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1200 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] At 1815 today, the Dalai Lama left for New Delhi aboard flight no. AL 305. Prior to departure, he paid his respects to the Emerald Buddha at the Phra Si Rattana Satsadaram temple.

Burmese Dissidents Stage Hunger Strike

BK1802024193 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Feb 93 p 3

[Text] Burmese dissidents being held at the Police School in Bang Khen have started a hunger strike to demand that Rangoon release Burma's opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

Student activist sources said 38 Burmese detained at the centre began their hunger strike on Sunday.

The hunger strike was still underway yesterday and there is growing concern among local student movements for the health of the strikers, the sources said.

"The group vows not to end the fast until Aung San Suu Kyi is released," the source said.

Part Two of Dalai Lama Interview Aired

BK1802100993 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 9 in Thai 0020 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Interview with the Dalai Lama on Sutthichai Yun's "Face the Nation" program—recorded; questions and answers in English]

[Text] [Sutthichai Yun] We will show you the second and final part of the interview with the Dalai Lama who arrived in Thailand two days ago to join six other Nobel laureates to pressure the Burmese Government to release the opposition leader there, Aung San Suu Kyi. The Dalai Lama left yesterday after a short 27-hour visit to Thailand.

[Unidentified person] Your Holiness, do you think besides the Nobel laureates' effort, do you think what kinds of roles Burma's neighbors should play in helping Aung San Suu Kyi?

[Dalai Lama] I don't know. That's up to you, the Thai, Thai Government, Thai people. You know better. [laughs]

[Sutthichai Yun] Your Holiness, apart from Burma, what is your main concern around the world now?

[Dalai Lama] Now, in Africa state, in Africa continent, really I think, the starvation, and also the problem of AIDS—that also I think is very serious. Then, of course, the former Yugoslavia, a civil war, really.... They showed many emotions, really, become out of control. Then some other .... Then it's the former members of the Soviet Union, member countries of the Soviet Union. That also is one concern for me. The totalitarian... the communist totalitarian system which has collapsed. One way, that's good. That is a most welcome thing. At the same time, as a result, the old system diminished, or collapsed. The new appropriate, or the sound, the new, sound system not yet developed. So there, between there, there is so much care for the situation there. So that also really is concern about me ... the concern for me. Then initially, as a Tibetan, as Dalai Lama, also there is a concern about my own country.

[Unidentified person] One last question... Your Holiness, what is the next campaign you are going to launch?

[Dalai Lama] I don't know. [laughs] At the moment, I don't know. [laughs] Generally, as a human being, you know, as a human being, I am always concerned about the problem of motivation. As a Buddhist, from..., and also, you see, sometimes, I introduced myself as a Buddhist psychologist. So, from the Buddhist psychologist, from that viewpoint, I consider the motivation is the most important factor. So every human action, whether it has become positive or negative, must depend on motivation. So therefore, they must take every care about the problem of motivation. For that is the Buddhist message—karuna, compassion. It's the basic thing for sincere motivation. So with the realization, all [word indistinct] being, if not at least all human being, as brothers and sisters, as a member of one human family. With that, it's the sense of responsibility, the sense of concern for all others. It's the key thing. So the promotion of the human compassion and the sense of involvement, sense of global responsibility. Now that I feel the entire of our future very much depend on this motivation. So here the various different spiritual traditions have special responsibility, and particularly the various Buddhist, we have our special responsibility the Buddhist message, the message of love and compassion, and the message of Buddhism [word indistinct]. Now these two things are very very relevant in modern time. And I think the future of humanity, I think, for that, these two Buddhist messages can be very important role.

[Sutthichai Yun] The last question Your Holiness ...

[Dalai Lama] So, so I'm quite sure, the Thai as the Buddhist brothers sisters, you can make great contribution in this respect.

[Sutthichai Yun] Last question, Your Holiness. What is the future of Buddhism compared to human rights and dictatorship?

[Dalai Lama] Of course, all religions have the potential to help humanity, to help world peace. And, meantime, particularly Buddha Dharma, since Buddha Dharma, is very much based on investigation, or reasons. So therefore, for certain scientific-minded people, the Buddhist message is more suitable. So therefore, the Buddha Dharma, I think, can be important role for future. And also here, because sometimes I feel, I notice, you see, through my own, some kind of investigation, that today about [words indistinct] of human beings. It seems three groups—we can divide three groups. One group, and that's a majority. They, in their daily life, hardly know religious faith. They may claim Buddhist, or may claim I'm Christian, I'm Muslim, but in actual day-by-day social life, I think very little religious influence or religious, how say, practice. That's the majority. Their main concern is money. Nothing else. Then one group, a small group, that I think deliberately against religion. That one extreme, what call, usually I call extreme atheist. Because I should..., because you see, I mean according to some scholar, Buddhism is also a kind of atheism. Since Buddhism does not accept creator. So, I used to say, extreme atheism. So that's really the end of religion. That's one thing. More. Then another thing, another group, that does not believe in some kind of different religious faith, and mainly it is based on faith without much investigation. Now here you see, this group, this is too extreme. It is the group usually it is hardly no communcation. Now, also we can call this group as a radical materalist. In some, it is doubt whether there is existence of mind or not. So that's the radical materialist. One extreme ... One... too much as a (?faith).

Now Buddhism belongs to neither there. From this group, they see all Buddhists as the kind of nihilism, because they do not accept creator. From this group, Buddhism is not as a religion, but a kind of..., from certain viewpoint, a kind of nihilism, since it denies the existence of God, the creator. From this group, they see Buddhism also a kind of spiritual, a kind of religion. They also [word indistinct] from this group. So between, Buddhism remain between there. So one day, Buddhism can be important role between these two. These two forces come together through Buddhist... I think / through the Buddhist philosophy, there is a possibility of making a connection or stretching a bridge between the two groups/ [preceding passage within slantlaines in Tibetan translated into English by the Dalai Lama's secretary]. Buddhist, some scholars, some Western Buddhist scholars say Buddhism is not a religion, but rather the science of mind. It's true. Or Buddhism is way of life, not religion. But at the same time, Buddha Dharma also accepts the rebirth, or the concept of rebirth, also we accept Bodhisattva as a higher being. So therefore, Buddhism is a, I think, Buddhism it seems everything is there. So I feel, the time was, I think we Buddhist can make some contribution regarding benefit of human beings. This is my feeling. Thank you.

[Sutthichai Yun] And that was the interview with the Dalai Lama who is joining the six other Nobel laureates in Bangkok trying to ask the Burmese Government to release the opposition leader, Aung San Suu Kyi. They will spend the days here until this weekend. But the Dalai Lama was due to leave Thailand yesterday after a short 27-hour visit to Thailand. Until then, have a good day.

Laureates Urge Release of Aung San Suu Kyi

BK1802104993 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 18 Feb 93 p 4

["Open letter" from the Nobel Peace Laureates calling for the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi]

[Text] We, the undersigned Nobel Peace Laureates, write to express our grave concern over the continued detention in Burma of our sister laureate Aung San Suu Kyi. We condemn, in the strongest possible terms, the State Law and Order Restoration Council's [SLORC] denial of her fundamental rights of free speech and political association. Along with hundreds of other political prisoners, she remains illegally detained in Burma and must be set free.

The resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations demonstrate the strength of world opinion concerning Aung San Suu Kyi's plight. We join the international community in calling for her immediate and unconditional release and for the restoration of democracy in Burma.

In awarding the Peace Prize in 1991, the Nobel Committee commended Aung San Suu Kyi for her particular integrity and self-sacrifice, and her consistent and effective practice of Gandhian principles of non-violence in the face of severe threats to her life and to those of her followers. The Committee singled out her insistence on the primacy of human rights and equality of justice for all of Burma's ethnic minorities. It is indeed tragic that these values and practices have resulted in Aung San Suu Kyi's detention.

In 1988, the SLORC's predecessors in the military government acquiesced to the requests of the people of Burma to hold democratic elections and engage in the democratic process. No sooner had our sister laureate Aung San Suu Kyi become leader of the National League for Democracy than she was jailed for her political activities, eight months prior to the election.

Despite the imprisonment of their leader, the democratic party she led while in detention won an overwhelming majority of seats in the national Parliament. Soon after these elections the SLORC also incarcerated many democratically elected politicians for taking part in the democratic process.

Despite an indomitable spirit and courage, she languishes under house arrest—silenced for her desire to serve her people and imprisoned for her ability to do so.

The isolation of Aung San Suu Kyi for three and a half years belies the SLORC's declared intention to allow a transition to civilian rule. During most of this period, she has been denied access even to her immediate family. Following Gandhian precepts, she has fasted in protest not only against her own detention, but also the imprisonment of her followers.

It is time the SLORC realised that the current repression sustained by non-violence, cruelty and torture only prolong the uncertainty of Burma's future as a nation.

With the support of the International Centre for Human Rights and Democratic Development in Montreal, Canada, a number of our fellow Nobel Peace Laureates intended to travel to Rangoon, Burma. Their objective was to meet with the highest officials of the State Order Restoration Council, and to secure the immediate and unconditional release of our imprisoned sister laureate and the hundreds of other prisoners of conscience whose only crime against the State has been the non-violent expression of their beliefs.

The visas to enter Burma were denied by the SLORC regime and today, the Mission is travelling to the Thai-Burma border in order to receive personal accounts of the continuing human rights atrocities occurring in Burma.

As fellow recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize, we are honoured to affirm our admiration and support for Aung San Suu Kyi, and for the struggle for human rights in Burma which she personifies. She has written that, "those who wish to build a nation ... must first free their own minds from apathy and fear."

We call on the State Law and Order Restoration Council to honour its commitment to the elected National Assembly to free Aung San Suu Kyi and all the Assembly members currently imprisoned to allow the democratically elected civilian government to rule in its own sphere and thusly to permit the constitutional process to begin anew.

If the State Law and Order Restoration Council is truely committed to the future of Burma, they must free Aung San Suu Kyi without condition and without delay.

[Signed] Institut de Droit International/Institute of International Law (Switzerland, 1904)

American Friends Service Committee (United States, 1947)

Linus C. Pauling (United States, 1962)

Mairead Maguire and Betty Williams (Ireland, 1976)

Amnesty International (England, 1977)

Adolfo Perez Esquivel (Argentina, 1980)

Desmond Tutu (South Africa, 1984)

International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (United States, 1985)

Elie Wiesel (United States, 1986)

Oscar Arias (Costa Rica, 1987)

His Holiness the Dalai Lama (Tibet, 1989)

Mikhail Gorbachev (Russia, 1990)

Rigoberta Menchu Tum (Guatemala, 1992)

Vietnam

AFP: New Search for U.S. MIA Remains To Begin

BK1802145693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1436 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] HANOI, Feb 18 (AFP)—Vietnamese and U.S. experts will begin a new search next week for the remains of U.S. troops missing in action (MIA) during the Vietnam War, Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Ho The Lan said here Thursday. This 22 series [as received] of searches will cover nine provinces in the centre and south of the country between February 25 and March 23, she said.

Four inquiry teams and three excavation units will operate on the ground while three other teams will work in the military archives of Hanoi, Danang and Ho Chi Minh City.

The MIA question is the last obstacle erected by Washington to the normalisation of links between the United States and Vietnam, which have had no diplomatic ties since the fall of the U.S. backed South Vietnam government to communist North Vietnam and the reunification of the country in 1975.

Hanoi recently threw open its military records to U.S. experts in response to Washington's demand for total cooperation in the search for the more than 1,600 of its troops missing in Vietnam.

Border Talks With PRC End Without Compromise

BK1802121293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1208 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi, Feb 18 (AFP)—China and Vietnam ended Thursday a second round of border talks without reaching a compromise, a Vietnamese official said.

"The talks made no progress and it will be very difficult to reach a compromise," the official said, adding that experts from both sides had focused exclusively on differences on their land border and territorial waters in the Gulf of Tonkin.

The official, who did not want to be named, said the talks were based on Franco-Chinese treaties made during France's colonial rule of Indochina "which are unclear on the demarcation of territorial waters." The land border dispute centred on an area of several hundred square kilometres (square miles), he said.

Vietnamese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Ho The Lan said only that the talks had been "friendly and frank" and that the two delegations had exchnaged views on the matter in preparation for negotiations at the government level.

Lan confirmed that Chinese Defence Minister Qin Jiwei would visit Hanoi this month, but that the exact date had yet to be finalised.

China and Vietnam normalised relations in 1991 after decades of hostility exacerbated by Hanoi's invasion of Cambodia in 1978 to oust the Beijing-backed Khmer Rouge there. In the last two years there have been frequent incidents in the disputed border areas. The Chinese experts, who arrived Sunday for the talks, were received Thursday by Vietnam's Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan, Lan said.

Japanese Envoy Discusses 'New Stage' of Ties

BK1702151393 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 15 Feb 93

[Report on remarks by Japanese Ambassador to Vietnam Hiroyuki Yushita on Japanese-Vietnamese relations; date and place not given—read by announcer]

[Text] The Japanese ambassador to Vietnam, Mr. Hiroyuki Yushita, said relations between Japan and Vietnam have entered a new stage. Speaking in Hanoi, the ambassador described how Japanese investers have paid much much attention to investment in Vietnam. Here are our details about the Vietnam-Japan relations.

Over the last ten years, the Vietnam-Japan relations have only been partly developed. But this relationship has been grown very much since last autumn, when Japan decided to resume its overseas development aid to Vietnam. And since then, as the Japanese ambassador said, relations between the two countries have entered a new stage. He said: This year will see concrete steps of development of Japan-Vietnam relations. He said: At present, Japan wishes to cooperate with and help Vietnam develop its economy, and stabilize and improve the people's living standard. Japan also wishes to further strengthen its relations with Vietnam in political, cultural, social, and trade fields.

Japan is an important trade partner of Vietnam. Although Singaporean businessmen are now ranking first, Japan is entering the Vietnamese market steadily. Twenty of Japan's biggest companies—some are the biggest in Asia—now are regular trade partners of Vietnam.

To this reality and with Vietnamese renovation policy which is described by the Japanese ambassador to Vietnam as correct, Japan is now showing its determination to promote its cooperative relations with Vietnam. In the coming period, there will be important development to meet this target.

Mr. Hiroyuki Yushita stressed: Japan and Vietnam are very important to each other, and Japan will not hesitate to cooperate with Vietnam, a country playing an important role in preserving peace, stability, and development in Asia and the Pacific.

Radio Comments on Recent SNC Meeting in Cambodia

BK1602152293 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 12 Feb 93

[Station commentary]

[Text] On Wednesday, Prince Norodom Sihanouk and eleven other members of the Supreme National Council of Cambodia met in Phnom Penh and agreed that the election campaign in Cambodia will be held from 7 April to 19 May.

Addressing the meeting, UNTAC [United Nation Transitional Authority in Cambodia] chief Akashi announced that the election campaign will end four days before the general elections organized for 23 May. Mr. Akashi said 4.7 million Cambodian people have now received their voting cards. This is a [word indistinct] victory despite the opposition of the Democratic Kampuchea.

Also at this meeting, the Supreme National Council decided to set up an office for national heritage protection. It also ratified the ban of the exported gems. UNTAC chief Akashi also called on Cambodian factions to stop violating the cease-fire. He highly valued efforts made by the State of Cambodia in maintaining the neutral political environment and called for further efforts from the State of Cambodia in stopping political uprising in localities. For his part, Cambodian Premier Hun Sen demanded the Democratic Kampuchea stop its military operations. If not, it is to hold full reponsibility for its acts.

Thai Princess Begins Official Visit to SRV

Princess Arrives in Hanoi 17 Feb

BK1702055093 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] According to a Voice of Vietnam correspondent, Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon arrived in Hanoi at 1100 [0400 GMT] this morning to start an official friendship visit to our country at the invitation of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet.

The official welcoming ceremony was solemnly held at the Presidential Palace. Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet and many high-ranking Vietnamese Government officials accorded a warm welcome to Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon as she brought the friendship of the Thai king, government, and people to the Vietnamese people. Also attending the welcoming ceremony were members of the diplomatic corps and representatives of many international organizations in Hanoi.

Princess Welcomed at Ceremony

BK1702134993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Report on 17 February Hanoi welcoming ceremony for Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon—read by announcer]

[Text] At the invitation of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon arrived in Hanoi this afternoon [17 February], beginning her official friendship visit to Vietnam. A welcoming ceremony for the Thai princess was solemnly held at the presidential palace in accordance with state protocol.

The motorcade of the Thai princess arrived at the presidential palace at 1110 sharp. Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon was warmly welcomed upon her arrival by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet, Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam, Hanoi Municipal People's Committee Chairman Le At Hoi, and many ministers and deputy ministers.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet solicitously invited the Thai princess to stand on a dais of honor while the military band played the official royal Thai anthem and the Vietnamese national anthem.

After the salute to the colors ceremony, Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet invited Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon to review a guard of honor of the Vietnamese People's Army and to say hello to those present to welcome her, including high-ranking Vietnamese Government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and the representatives of many international organizations in Hanoi.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet warmly received the princess at the presidential palace after her arrival in Hanoi. He wished her official friendship visit to Vietnam a fine success. Also in Hanoi, Mr. Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam, warmly received Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon at 1700 this afternoon.

Vo Van Kiet Speaks at Banquet

BK1802042193 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 17 Feb 93

["Text" of Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet's speech at 17 February Hanoi banquet in honor of visiting Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon, distinguished Thai guests, dear Vietnamese friends: Now that spring is coming back to Vietnam, we are very happy to welcome Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakkri Sirithon, envoy of the Royal Family and people of the Kingdom of Thailand, who is here for an official friendship visit to Vietnam.

Vietnam and Thailand are two neighboring countries with many similarities and cultural relations. The history of the two countries has witnessed many ups and downs. Our two peoples, however, have made constant efforts to develop the good friendship and cooperation between the two nations. Particularly, in recent years, the relations between the two countries have entered a new stage. Our mutual understanding and multifaceted cooperation have been enhanced with every passing day. The obstacles left by the past have been overcome step by step. There have been official government visits as well as business contacts and joint ventures between the two countries' economic organizations.

His Royal Highness the King and the Thai Royal Family have made very important contributions to those encouraging developments. Of particular importance is the fact that in mid-November 1992, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Maha Wachiralongkon, on behalf of His Royal Highness the King, paid an official visit to Vietnam, the first visit by an envoy of the Thai Royal Family in the history of the relations between our two countries.

Tonight, on behalf of the government and people of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, I am very happy to welcome Her Royal Highness Princess's official visit to Vietnam, regarding it as a new step of development in the constant consolidation and development of the friendship and cooperation between Vietnam and Thailand for the sake of the prosperity and happiness of each people as well as of peace, stability, and development in the region. I warmly welcome Her Royal Highness Princess in her role as an outstanding representative of the Thai people in the promotion of relations with other peoples, including the Vietnamese people. I also warmly welcome Her Royal Highness Princess in her capacity as a well-known scientist and social activist who commands great respect from the Thai people.

During this visit, Her Royal Highness Princess will meet with Vietnamese leaders and people of all walks of life; learn more about Vietnam, its land and people; and clealry understand our people's frienship with the Thai people. I am convinced that with enthusiasm and profound knowledge, Her Royal Highness Princess will, during this Vietnam visit, contribute to promoting the friendship and cooperation between our two countries. It is my firm belief that this visit will further promote the mutual understanding and good ties between the Vietnamese and Thai peoples. Along with making continued efforts to serve the cause of national renovation and development, the Vietnamese people pledge the determination to further consolidate the friendship and multifaceted cooperation between our two countries.

May I ask Her Royal Highness Princess and all of you here to toast to the health and happiness of His Royal Highness the King, Her Royal Highness the Queen, and the Thai Royal Family; to the health of Vietnamese leaders; to the constant consolidation and development of the fine friendship and good neighborliness between the SRV and the Kingdom of Thailand; to the health of

Her Royal Highness Princess and to the success of her Vietnam visit; and to the health of all the dignitaries and friends here.

Princess Speaks at Banquet

BK1802071993 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam Network in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 17 Feb 93

["Text" of reply speech by Thai Princess Maha Chakkri Sirinthon at 17 February Hanoi banquet hosted by Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet in her honor—read by announcer]

[Text] Your Excellency the vice president of the state, Your Excellency the prime minister and his wife, distinguished guests: I am very pleased to have the honor to pay an official visit to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. I am extremely moved by the very warm and friendly welcome accorded to me, including this grand reception in my honor tonight. My special thanks go to His Excellency the prime minister. I would also like to convey my gratitude to the Vietnamese Government and people.

I have come to realize that Vietnam is a country with a highly developed culture, art, and science, thanks to relatively thorough research. I have longed for the day I could make an on-the-spot tour to witness all those things. My dream has come true thanks to your solicitude. I have gained (?profound knowledge). I am convinced that what I have learned will greatly contribute to further enhancing my personal experience and knowledge.

Vietnam and Thailand as well as our two peoples have already maintained relations even before the establishment of diplomatic ties. In November 1992, Prince Maha Wachiralongkon, on behalf of the King of Thailand, paid an official visit to the SRV. That visit was of great important significance to the (?improvement) of the friendship between our two nations. At the same time, it constituted a factor contributing to [words indistinct] development in all fields [words indistinct] Vietnamese and Thai peoples.

[Words indistinct] for many years now, the Thai people have followed with keen interest the progress made by Vietnam. [Words indistinct] I am convinced that under the effective management of the Vietnamese Government [words indistinct] national development in all fields.

Before closing, I would like to convey [words indistinct]. I would like to propose a toast to the health of [words indistinct], His Excellency the prime minister and his wife; and to the ever-lasting friendship between our two peoples.

Phan Van Khai Receives Brunei Oil Delegation

BK1702121793 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai received a delegation of the Royal Brunei Oil and Gas Consortium [Bruman] led by Mssrs. Awang Hussein, foreign relations office director, and George Ang, executive director of the Consortium, in Hanoi the morning of 13 February. Mr. (Kevin Moreland), vice president in charge of foreign relations of Amoco Oil, an American oil company, was also in the delegation.

Mssrs. Awang Hussein and George Ang thanked the Vietnamese Government for having created favorable conditions for the delegation to pay working visits to various relevant agencies and offices in Vietnam. They also briefed the deputy prime minister on what Brunei has done with Vietnam since the visit made earlier in the year by Prince Sufri Haji Bolkiah, president of the consortium, and Pengiran Jefri, investment advisor of the Sultan of Brunei.

The Royal Brunei Oil and Gas Consortium held talks with PETROVIETNAM on capital investment and technological equipment from the consortiums of Amoco and (Brown, Ross, and Halibata) of the United States. They also discussed many projects to explore and exploit oil and natural gas on Vietnam's continental shelf with priority given to projects to build a gas pipeline, a gas liquifying plant, and an oil refinery plant.

These consortiums are ready to start their investment once an agreement is signed between the Governments of Brunei and Vietnam.

Deputy Prime Minister Phan Van Khai welcomed the delegation's working visit to Vietnam, hailing its urgent and active working spirit as being reflective of the desire of the Sultan of Brunei and the royal oil and gas consortium to cooperate with Vietnam.

Under its open-door policy, Vietnam is ready to cooperate with all consortiums, including those from the United States, on a mutually-beneficial basis. The Bruman consortium visit to Vietnam will help further enhance the relations of friendly cooperation between Vietnam and Brunei.

The deputy prime minister also conveyed his best regards to the Sultan of Brunei and the royal family.

Hanoi Population Exceeds 2.15 Million

BK1702064593 Hanoi VNA in English 0609 GMT 17 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA Feb. 17—The Hanoi Committee for Population and Family Planning recently announced that the population of the capital city has grown to over 2.15 million, of which 54.12 per cent live in the suburbs. The city's birth rate last year was 2.01 per cent, down by 1.4 per cent compared to the previous year. This rate was 1.74 percent in the four urban districts but much higher, 2.23 percent in the suburban districts.

"In the Mekong River Delta province of An Giang, every people at child-bearing age has on the average had three occasions to receive information on population and family planning, 63.2 percent of the province's family planning efforts have been popularised through lectures. The Vietnam Women's Union now has 26,091 members working on population and family planning at commune level.

"By the end of 1992, the population of the central Vietnam province of Thua Thien-Hue had grown to 958,000, up by 70,000 compared with 1989. The province is striving tgo out the birth rate by 0.7 per cent this year by combining education with the provision of medical service to every village.

Meteorology Cooperation Agreement Signed With China

BK1302143393 Hanoi VNA in English 1405 GMT 13 Feb 93

[Text] Hanoi VNA February 13—Vietnam and China have signed here an agreement on scientific and technical cooperation in meteorology and an agreement on resumption of the Hanoi-Beijing meteorological channel.

The signing ceremony was held during a working visit by a delegation of the State Meteorological Department of China led by director Zou Jingmeng who arrived in Hanoi on Feb. 7.

This morning, the Chinese guests were received by Deputy Prime Minister Nguyen Khanh. Also present at the event were Zhang Dewei, chinese ambassador, and Professor Doctor Nguyen Duc Ngu, general director of the Vietnam General Department of Meteorology and Hydrology.

Tomorrow the Chinese delegation will leave for Ho Chi Minh City to continue its Vietnam visit due to end on Feb. 17.

Australia

Keating Switches Tactics in Bid To Reverse Polls

BK1702082693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0551 GMT 17 Feb 93

[By Jack Taylor]

[Excerpts] Sydney, Feb 17 (AFP)—Labor is pinning its hopes on new tactics by Prime Minister Paul Keating and the de facto backing of the Australian car industry to pull back support before the March 13 poll, officials said Wednesday. Toyota and Mitsubishi gave the government their blessing Tuesday, raising the spectre of car industry closures under a conservative coalition committed to reducing tariffs to zero by the year 2000 if it wins power.

Although Labor trails in the polls, both sides agree the election is a long way from won because of the large number of uncommitted voters. To woo them, Keating has switched the thrust of his rhetoric to attacking opposition plans for a goods and services tax (GST) and away from trying to sell his message that economic recovery is gathering momentum.

In a speech to launch a new Toyota Camry in Melbourne, Keating delivered what was probably the best—and most publicised—one-liner of the campaign so far. He discarded a prepared address for an impromptu speech in which he listed goods and services subject to a 15 percent GST, saying: "Whenever you put your hand in your pocket, Dr. Hewson's hand will be in there too," a reference to conservative leader John Hewson.

Labor strategists believe statements at the launching by Toyota Australia president Bob Johnston and later by Mitsubishi General Manager for Government Relations Chas Allan were also a major boost to the government campaign.

Toyota is based in Victoria and Mitsubishi in South Australia, states crucial to Labor's re-election hopes. It must win key seats in Victoria and avoid losing them in South Australia if it is to retain power. Toyota employs 4,400 workers in Victoria and Mitsubishi 4,500 in South Australia, but the total industry workforce including other car makers and component manufacturers is almost 70,000 voters. Praising the government's approach to industrial relations, Johnston said: "Without the support of the government the Camry would not have happened." [passage omitted]

Keating has been guided by the reaction of a panel of swinging voters to Sunday night's televised debate between Keating and Hewson. The television station "people-meter" showed a panel of 120 voters were most alarmed about opposition plans to reform taxation, industrial relations and health systems, but turned off by economic forecasts.

They registered only disbelief when Keating mentioned what should have been one of the government's major drawcards—the fact that economic recovery, slow as it may be, is faster here than in any other western country.

In the meantime, Keating received the backing of a galaxy of show business stars protesting here Wednesday about the GST which they said could destroy the entertainment industry.

New Zealand

Minister Calls Clinton Tax Plan 'Unintelligent'

BK1802061693 Hong Kong AFP in English 0050 GMT 18 Feb 93

[Text] Wellington, Feb 18 (AFP)—U.S. President Bill Clinton's decision to raise taxes is "unintelligent," New Zealand Finance Minister Ruth Richardson said here Thursday.

"Now in an unintelligent way he's going to blunder in and we're going to have a higher-taxing president on our hands as well as a protectionist on our hands," she told the New Zealand service of the BBC World Service. "It's a pretty lethal combination." It is "sheer folly" to raise taxes to tackle a deficit problem, she said, adding that the only way was to tackle public expenditure. "It is sheer folly, it is counter-productive, to imagine that the answer lies in higher taxes." Richardson said raising taxes would penalise the very people who were going to lead an economic recovery. "So President Clinton would be better advised not to meddle as he apparently is intent upon," ' she said.

Taxing the middle class would put him on the wrong side of the economics of the issue because there was an emerging recovery in the United States, she said. "It's important for world growth that that recovery be allowed to take hold and he should in an intelligent way basically do nothing," she said.

Richardson agreed with the interviewer that if Clinton's proposals had an adverse effect on the American economy it would be bad news for New Zealand. "It's one of the risks to the New Zealand recovery and we always are vulnerable to poor policy being practised internationally," she said. "So a recessionary world climate just makes it that much more difficult for New Zealand to sustain the growth that we now see emerging."